

THE JOURNAL

Friday, November 11, 2005

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Sports Albany freshman a surprise winner at NorCal golf tournament [C1]

Arts & Leisure 'Dear World' is an actor's showcase for Masquers [C12]

Bonds give West County schools \$890 million

By Shirley Dang
STAFF WRITER

The passage of a \$400 million bond measure launched a new chapter in the West Contra Costa school district's overhaul of its aging campuses.

More than 800 projects in the state. Renovating 22 campuses under prior bond measures will cost an estimated \$550 million. The new bond is expected to give facelifts to 13 more elementary schools and three high schools.

"I'm so excited," said Amor Sison, mother of two Pinole Valley High School students that will see their campus revitalized.

See MEASURE J, Page A12

Provisionals, absentees hold Measure A fate

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

As of Thursday morning, the Albany school district's Measure A parcel tax was leading by 57 votes in an unusually close result. However, the Alameda County Registrar of Voters still needed to count at least 800 additional provisional and absentee ballots.

"There are quite a lot of absentee ballots left to count county-wide," said Elaine Ginnold, Alameda County's acting registrar of voters, on Wednesday. "And so I'm sure there will be quite a few in Albany to count for this measure." The measure requires 66 per-

cent of the vote to pass. So far, out of 4,865 votes counted, 3,301 people, or 67.8 percent, voted in favor of the measure, and 1,564 people, or 32.2 percent, voted against it.

The registrar expected to have updates on all of the races Thursday afternoon, and to certify the results by Dec. 6.

The school district said the tax was needed to make up for inadequate funding from the state. School board member Miriam Walden was confident the measure would pass based on the early absentee ballot results.

See MEASURE A, Page A12

Mira Vista celebrates 55 years

Many think its popularity among diverse groups stems from its welcoming atmosphere

By Martin Snapp
STAFF WRITER

The Mira Vista Golf & Country Club, often called "the East Bay's hidden jewel," will celebrate its 55th anniversary with a gala party Saturday

more than 800 feet above sea level in the El Cerrito Hills, Mira Vista has a spectacular view of San Francisco Bay. On a clear day you can see all the way to Mt. Tamalpais in Marin County.

"I can play my favorite game and see a spectacular view of my favorite city at the same time," said former San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos, who has lived the distance from his front porch in San Francisco to the first tee at Mira Vista as exactly 17.2 miles. Mira Vista's oldest member, 95-old Erwin Marcos of Albany, says the place is a lot better now than it was when he joined in 1945. They weren't able to take care of the course properly during World War II, and the grass had grown dry in the fairways, and they didn't have enough water to rake the sand traps regularly. Now everything is perfect. It's a pleasure to play.

But the change he liked best was the links; it was in the clubhouse. Back then, they didn't let Jews or blacks or African-Americans in. But all changed in the early '70s. Our members come from all backgrounds, ethnic groups, and economic levels of life."

Agnos agreed.

See MIRA VISTA, Page A10



MARK DUFRENE/STAFF

MARIE CALLOWAY putts while Chuck Calloway looks on at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club in El Cerrito on Wednesday. The country club, located 800 feet above sea level, boasts a spectacular view of San Francisco Bay.

Council votes to appeal condo project at plaza

■ Neighborhood groups and school district also oppose the El Cerrito plan, citing density and parking concerns

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

The Albany City Council voted unanimously to appeal a recent decision allowing a 128-unit condominium project on the southeast corner of El Cerrito Plaza.

"It's a very poor location for a high-density project," City Councilman Farid Javandel said.

The Albany school district and two neighborhood groups are also planning to appeal the El Cerrito planning commission's decision last week. Neo Serafimidis, who represented the North Albany Neighborhood Association, said the final environmental report did not adequately address how the development would affect nearby Albany Middle School and Cougar Field, or how the potential street closures would affect the project.

In addition, the lack of parking for the project — 1.23 spaces per unit — will place a burden on Albany, he said.

Charles Burress said the city of El Cerrito received 900 comments about the project when it contained a BART parking garage. He said he believed that every comment had been dismissed, and then the developer had come back with a similarly sized proposal.

"The project is way out of scale with the neighborhood," said Burress, an El Cerrito resident and the co-chair of the Behrens Neighborhood Association, which also plans to appeal.

The appeal deadline is next Thursday.

The development rises to 59 feet — 14 feet higher than El Cerrito's allowed height as well as the height of nearby Albany apartment buildings, said Ann Chaney, Albany's community development director. The project also exceeds El Cerrito's allowable density by 10 units.

The development, dubbed Creekside at El Cerrito Plaza, will require a traffic study and proposed changes to El Cerrito Plaza's traffic circulation as a condition of the planning commission's approval.

See CONDOS, Page A12

School district files suit alleging dishonest work

Engineering firm may have endangered students

By Shirley Dang
STAFF WRITER

In the last of West Contra Costa school district's 17 newly renovated elementary schools, the final touches of paint, the leaders are reeling over the fact that the buildings may have been erected on unstable ground. The district hired soil engineer Nizam-Aldine in 2002 to perform seismic and geological tests. In return, the Pleasanton engineer submitted fake re-

ports that failed to pass state muster, according to a district complaint filed against the Pleasanton Hill engineer.

With five schools yet to be built, the potentially fraudulent reports could cost the district \$10 million in retesting and delays, according to a Times analysis.

In the worst-case scenario, Nizam-Aldine may have endangered the lives of more than 5,700 students attending class in the campuses constructed using his reports.

"This has huge ramifications," said school board member Charles Ramsey, a tenant lawyer

and member of the board's subcommittee on facilities.

The district is suing the Nizam-Aldine and his San Francisco-based company Globe Soil Engineers for unspecified damages. District lawyers filed the suit in Contra Costa Superior Court in May.

The complaint claims that Nizam-Aldine acted negligently and broke his contract by filing "unreliable" reports. The district also claims the engineer charged the district \$36,900 for inspections he never performed.

See SUIT, Page A11

THE LAWSUIT

The West Contra Costa school district filed a damages suit in May against geological testing firm Globe Soil Engineers and owner Zuhayr Nizam-Aldine of Pleasanton Hill. The suit claims the business:

- Charged the district nearly \$40,000 for tests never performed.
- Turned in reports that do not meet state guidelines for assessing geological hazards.
- Caused costly delays in construction.

— Shirley Dang



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

A STUDENT leaves his portable classroom at El Cerrito High School as construction work continues in the background. The West Contra Costa school district has filed suit against Globe Soil Engineers for what it says is fraudulent work at 17 newly renovated schools.

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(KNIGHT RIDER)

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NEWS BRIEFS

Albany

Good reverses position on park votes

In a turnaround, Mayor Robert Good recused himself in a recent vote for city park renovations because he lives within 500 feet of Memorial Park.

By a 4-0 vote, the council approved an additional \$488,654 from the Measure F bond reserve for parks projects and \$744,739 from Measure R ball field funds for park rehabilitation projects.

In a previous vote, Good had voted on the Memorial Park renovation despite a warning from city attorney Robert Zweben that he may be violating the state's political reform act. Good said he had previously believed that a "substantial" economic impact would be required to recuse himself.

"I looked at the law," Good said, following the most recent vote. "Formerly, I had just seen a layman's version with uncomplicated language intended for people like council members. But it was wrong."

The actual law says it doesn't matter (whether there's a substantial interest), you have to recuse anyway. I learned that, and I recused. I have to say everything Zweben said was correct."

An investigation by the Fair Political Practices Commission for violations of the political reform act takes months or a year or more, and can result in a fine of up to \$5,000. The FPPC can also refer cases to the attorney general's office.

— Alan Lopez

Community Foundation selling tickets

The Albany Community Foundation is selling raffle tickets to raise funds for community projects. Led by Vice Mayor Allan Maris, the foundation this year improved irrigation and landscaping on Key Route Boulevard between Brighton Avenue and Thousand Oaks Boulevard; erected the Menikoff Public Information Kiosk on Solano Avenue at Curtis Street; and co-sponsored the Spring Arts and Music Festival in Memorial Park.

Raffle tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5. Prizes include a digital camera, an iPod player, a DVD player, and gift certificates from Lalime's, the Albany Bistro, Sunnyside Cafe and other restaurants, Albany Bowl and others. Tickets can be purchased at the Albany Chamber of Commerce at 1108 Solano Ave., at Albany Ford at 718 San Pablo Ave., or at the Safeway on Solano at Curtis. The drawing will be held at Albany Ford at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19. For more information, call Maris at 510-526-7032.

— Alan Lopez

Toy store certified a 'green' business

The Solano Avenue toy store Five Little Monkeys is among the businesses recently certified "green" by the Alameda County Green Business program.

Five Little Monkeys is the first toy store in the Bay Area to be certified "green." Owner Stephanie Taylor selects environmentally friendly cleaners, building materials and floor finishes.

The store is among 21 recently certified green businesses that will be honored by the Alameda County Green Business program and the Sustainable Business Alliance at an event on Wednesday.

The honorees include eight Berkeley businesses. They are the Berkwood Hedge School, Consolidated Printers, The Deringer Group, Mechanics Bank, Odin's Hammer, REI, Shelterbelt Builders, Inc. and Westside Family.

"By conserving water and energy and reducing the amount of garbage it throws away, Five Little Monkeys and the others have demonstrated an active and ongoing commitment as environmental leaders, according to a press release.

— Alan Lopez

Park community room to be discussed

A meeting to discuss a possible community room at Terrace Park will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday at the senior center, 846 Masonic Ave.

The community room is part of a \$2.9 rehabilitation effort at Terrace, Ocean View and Memorial Park. The budget includes \$200,000 for the Terrace Park community building and restroom and \$57,047 for public art.

Terrace Park neighbors are divided over the community room. Several residents have lobbied for it, but at the City Council's Monday night meeting, several neighbors said they opposed it.

Some residents fear that it will increase noise, trash and traffic and parking problems in the area, according to a letter signed by 34 neighbors. For more information, call 510-524-9283.

— Alan Lopez

El Cerrito

More retail space requested for project

The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce is asking the city to provide more retail space in a proposed housing and commercial development near the Del Norte BART station.

The chamber is asking that city officials convince developer the Olson Co. to make the ground floor on San Pablo Avenue more traditionally commercial in nature.

"...We feel that 5,000 square feet of dedicated commercial space is not sufficient," according to a letter sent to Community Development Director Mitch Oshinsky and the planning commission. "Other pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use projects mentioned in the Olson portfolio seem to offer more commercial allocation, and we recommend that these be used as a model."

In addition to the commercial space, the Olson project calls for six live/work condominiums along San Pablo Avenue that would provide 900 square feet of ground-floor work space. The chamber believes more retail would provide more "pedestrian trade."

While a development application has not yet been submitted to the city, Olson has said it wants to build a total of 60 condominiums on a site bordered by San Pablo and Knott avenues, Cutting Boulevard and Kearney Street.

— Alan Lopez

Applications available for board vacancies

Applications for vacancies on four city boards and commissions are available at City Hall or on the city Web site at www.el-cerrito.org.

There is one vacancy each on the design review and economic development boards and the park and recreation and planning commissions. The vacancies followed recent resignations by design board and planning commission member Geoffrey Nelson, economic board member David Miller and parks commissioner Michele Jawad.

Boards and commissions meet once a month. The deadline for applications is 4 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 28, except for the planning commission deadline, which is Thursday, Dec. 8. Applications are due at the city clerk's office. City Hall is located at 10890 San Pablo Ave. For more information, call 510-215-4305.

— Alan Lopez

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El Cerrito closer to finalizing City Hall design

■ The city's current digs are a collection of old trailers, installed in 1988 after seismic concerns led to the old facility's razing

By Alan Lopez
 STAFF WRITER

The city of El Cerrito is moving forward with plans to replace a group of old trailers at San Pablo and Manila avenues with a new city hall.

The city is coming closer to finalizing a design for the project, with meetings taking place between members of the City Council and the design review board to hash out design details.

The new building may include an emergency operations center, space for public art and more.

"We're moving in a positive direction," said design review board chair Steve Price. "And if the quality of design work we've seen so far continues in the di-

rection we've seen, El Cerrito will get a city hall it can be proud of."

Under the plan, the new city hall would be located in its current location, at San Pablo and Manila avenues just south and across the street from the police and fire stations. The entrance would be located on the north side of the building.

People would see inside the building through a glass wall on the north side of the building, where the entrance would lie.

An open plaza would be located in front of City Hall, and the city would have the option of closing off that portion of Manila Avenue. Decorative brick, tile or cobblestone will likely lie on the street and reach the foot of the new building.

"I think it'll be attractive architecture," Price said. "It's not cutting-edge modernism, which may appeal to some people but not others. It's not 100 percent traditional architecture, and it has some contemporary features

to it, plus strong reference to the arts and crafts tradition of the Bay Area."

The city's current hall is a collection of old trailers. The city installed them in 1988 after seismic concerns required the demolition of the previous facility.

In 2001, the council socked away \$1.3 million in city reserves for the building of a new facility.

This year, with the city on an economic upswing, the council has named the building of a new city hall as its No. 1 priority.

But how much the total project will cost remains to be seen, said City Manager Scott Hanin.

"We hope somewhere in the neighborhood of January, that once we get approved schematics (building drawings) we can also say with pretty good certainty what the price would be," Hanin said. "We'll take that and work into the (city) budget, and see if it all works together."

The council will hold a study session on funding in January,

and will consider a plan in spring. If planned, construction begins next fall.

The project may double as an emergency center with its power generator, the creek-like water feature, "significant" increase in space; a mayor's employee lockers to encourage biking exercise; a second wall for public art; tally friendly design practices; and a second floor for the Historical Society.

The Veterans Men's flagpole for the site incorporated into the design. Meanwhile, the San Francisco-based architects, and has set

See CITY HALL

ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

Monday, Oct. 31

■ **CREDIT CARDS STOLEN** — An Albany man reported that items were stolen from her wallet while she was at an agency on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue. She later learned that her credit cards were being used in San Francisco. Police are investigating.

Tuesday, Nov. 1

■ **TWO ARRESTED** — At about 1 a.m., officers arrested a 51-year-old man near San Pablo and Solano avenues for an outstanding Albany warrant for repeated petty theft offenses in the amount of \$5,000. A few minutes later, they arrested a 34-year-old man for being drunk in public on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue.

■ **PAINT BALLS** — At about 3:30 a.m., officers observed a few cars on the 500 block of Pierce Street that had been hit with paint balls. They searched the area but did not find the culprits.

■ **MULTIPLE CHARGES** — A 34-year-old man was arrested at the Target store on the 1000 block of Eastshore for fraudulent use of a credit

card, burglary, and receiving stolen property. When the car he was driving was found to have been stolen, he was also cited for auto theft. The car was towed, and the owner notified. A woman with him was investigated and released.

Wednesday, Nov. 2

■ **DRUG CHARGES** — A 33-year-old Richmond man was arrested while at the Albany Bowl on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue for drug-possession charges.

Thursday, Nov. 3

■ **MULTIPLE CHARGES** — At about 2 p.m., officers stopped a red Buick near San Pablo Avenue and Monroe Street for expired registration and several outstanding parking violations. The front license plate was found to have been stolen, and the driver, a 20-year-old Union City man, was arrested for providing false identification and false registration. The car was towed.

Friday, Nov. 4

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — During the night, someone stole a blue 1989

Honda parked on the 700 block of Pierce Street. There were no witnesses.

■ **DUI** — At about 10:30 p.m., officers stopped a black Mercedes at the Buchanan Street interchange after CHP alerted officers that the car was being driven recklessly. They arrested the driver, a 42-year-old woman, for DUI.

Saturday, Nov. 5

■ **HARASSMENT** — Officers responded to a restaurant near Solano and San Pablo avenues on reports from a woman that there was a man harassing her and a friend. The man was gone when officers arrived.

■ **DUI** — Officers stopped a blue Lincoln Towncar near San Pablo and Marin avenues because it did not have license plates. They arrested the driver, a 57-year-old Oakland man, for having an outstanding Fresno warrant for DUI.

■ **TOYOTA STOLEN** — An Albany man living on the 1400 block of Solano Avenue reported that he had parked his gray 1988 Toyota Camry in the Safeway parking lot at about 3:30 p.m. When he returned for his car at about 8:30 p.m., it was gone.

He also reported that it had expired in September.

Sunday, Nov. 6

■ **DUI** — Shortly after officers arrested an 18-year-old man for DUI when they saw a blue 1991 Buick near Jackson streets.

■ **BURGLARY** — At about p.m., officers arrested a man for burglary when he reportedly returned an item to a store on the 1000 block shore.

Weekly summary

During the week of Oct. 31, towed four vehicles, responded to four calls, injured animals, assisted who were locked out of a dog. In the domestic area, responded to 18 civil disputes and 168 civil assists. Officers responded to 79 vehicles or persons, citations and 59 warnings. Fire fighters/paramedics responded to eight medical emergencies.

EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS

Sunday, Oct. 23

■ **SHOPLIFTING ARREST** — Police arrested a 20-year-old Richmond man on suspicion of shoplifting at Target at 12:15 p.m. Police say the man attempted to walk out of the store with several video games he had hidden in his clothing. The man was on probation for theft and had two prior convictions for the crime, police said.

Thursday, Oct. 27

■ **SHOPLIFTING ARREST** — A 19-year-old Richmond man was arrested at El Cerrito Plaza on suspicion of shoplifting at the Ross clothing store at 2:55 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 31

■ **ROBBERY ATTEMPT** — A group of six to eight juveniles attempted to rob two girls on the Ohlone Greenway at Manila Avenue at 7:10 p.m. The two girls were hit in the face and their pockets were rifled through, but there was no loss, police said. One of the girls received stitches for a cut over her right eye. Police received a report of the incident the next day.

Tuesday, Nov. 1

■ **STEREO STOLEN** — The stereo was taken from a 1996 Toyota Tercel sometime between 2 and 10 a.m. The passenger door lock was pried open, and speakers were taken from the trunk.

■ **AUTO THEFT** — Money, video games and a video game system and DVDs were taken from a 2003 Honda Civic on the 5200 block of Gordon Avenue sometime between 10:40 p.m. on Nov. 1 and 7:45 a.m. the next day. In addition, a window was smashed.

Wednesday, Nov. 2

■ **BURGLARY ATTEMPT** — An alarm scared off burglars attempting to enter a home on the 1700 block of Arlington Boulevard at 1:25 p.m. The burglars were attempting to pry open a rear kitchen window, police said.

■ **ACCORD STOLEN** — A 1988 Honda Accord was taken from the 8200 block of Terrace Drive sometime between 5:30 and 6 a.m.

■ **COROLLA RECOVERED** — A stolen 1987 Toyota Corolla was recovered on the 5200 block of Gordon Avenue at 8:30 a.m. The vehicle had

been reported stolen to San Francisco police on Oct. 27.

■ **ACCORD STOLEN** — A 1986 Honda Accord was taken from the 2500 block of Tulare Avenue sometime between 7 p.m. on Nov. 2 and 2:55 a.m. the next day.

Thursday, Nov. 3

■ **FORGERY ARREST** — Police arrested a Vallejo woman at her home on suspicion of committing a July forgery at Wells Fargo Bank. Police booked the woman on charges of forgery and burglary, and transported her to the county jail with bail set at \$40,000.

■ **ACCORD RECOVERED** — A stolen 1986 Honda Accord was found on the 5700 block of El Dorado Street at 4:20 p.m. It had been reported stolen to Pinole police on Nov. 1.

■ **BURGLARY** — A bedroom on the 1300 block of Scott Street was ransacked and property was taken sometime between 1 and 4:10 p.m. A window was forced open.

Friday, Nov. 4

■ **FORGERY ARREST** — Police arrested a man for an outstanding warrant on forgery and burglary. Police the man of taking two checks totaling \$5,000 from El Cerrito Plaza in July. Police obtained a warrant for the man following an investigation. The man turned himself in, and transported him to the county jail with bail set at \$80,000.

■ **ROBBERY** — A man while using an ATM machine of America at 10422 San Pablo at 6 p.m. Two men in black hit the victim in the back of the head, and then fled in a Toyota Camry.

Sunday, Nov. 6

■ **SATURN STOLEN** — A stolen 1980 Saturn was taken from the 7300 block of Beach Drive sometime between Nov. 6 and 7:30 a.m.

THE JOURNAL

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Craig Lazzaretto, Hills editor

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EDITORIAL

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CORRECTION

A news brief in last week's Journal about parking spaces on San Pablo Avenue repeated information from an earlier item but failed to include a comment from a Caltrans spokesperson. The correct brief also contained a headline for an item about vacancies for city boards that failed to appear.

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Neighbors

GLs made sacrifices, including a silent one

TODAY IS VETERANS DAY, one of our last chances to thank the GI generation while some of them are still with us. For the past 10 years or so, my generation, the Baby Boomers, have been collectively knowing at the feet of the GLs, saying, "We're not worthy! We're not worthy!" We've been writing books and making movies like "Saving Private Ryan" and calling them "The Greatest Generation."



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

the real heroes are my buddies who never came back."

But what he neglects to mention is that he had to watch them die.

Sometimes they died in his arms, as he frantically tried to keep their life's blood from seeping through his fingers. Think of the despair. Think of the sound of your friends screaming in agony. Think of the fear that it'll be your turn next.

Think of the constant hunger and the constant exhaustion from sleeping no more than two or three hours a night, night after night, in a cold, damp hole in the ground. And then remember that this happened to 18- or 19-year-old boys, many of whom had never been away from home before.

Worse yet, they never got any help when they got back home. Nobody knew about post-traumatic stress back then. The Army doctors told them to put it behind them and get on with their lives.

And they did what they were told. They went on and built the world we live in today. But they paid a terrible price by not being able to talk about what happened to them — and by extension, other things they really care about.

Sure, I'm over-generalizing. After all, for every man who saw combat, there were four or five behind the lines who never fired a shot in anger.

But I ran this idea past my friend Lawson Sakai, who was awarded four Purple Hearts in World War II, and he said, "I think you're onto something. I knew a lot of guys who quietly drank themselves to death."

On top of all the other sacrifices the GLs made for us, they made this last one — a silent one.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2768 or e-mail msnapp@cctimes.com.

FACES & PLACES

Musical salute for mayor's daughter

It's not every 11-year-old who receives a birthday serenade from the mayors of Contra Costa County.

As it happened, El Cerrito was the host Nov. 3 of the November meeting of the Contra Costa County Mayor's Conference.

As the host city's mayor, **Sandi Potter** had to show up even though it was her daughter **Julia's** 11th birthday.

But she partially made up for the fact that her child had to spend part of her big day in a room full of politicians by asking the mayors to sing "Happy Birthday" to her.

Let's hope Julia also received a super nice present.

There will be plenty of proud parents in the audience during the run of the Berkeley Repertory Theatre's upcoming production of the comedy "Brundibar," written by author Maurice Sendak and playwright Tony Kushner.

Among the 29 youths selected to perform with Broadway and off-Broadway actors in the production are **Nikaela Bradford**, 10, from Albany; and **Misha Brooks**, 9, **Matia Emsellem**, 12, **Lia Friedman-Salaverry**, 13,



DEAN COPPOLA/STAFF

GREG MAYER, right, a former drum major and class of 1976 graduate, marches with the El Cerrito High School marching band before the Pinole Valley-El Cerrito football game at El Cerrito High School last Friday. A handful of alumni band members joined the ECHS Marching Band Alumni Bash.

Gideon Lazarus, 11, **Yael Platt**, 11, **Nicole Raynor**, 13, **Brendan Reilly**, 12, **Erin Reilly**, 10, **Sophia Sinsheimer**, 9, **Gabriel Vergez**, 10, and **Marnina Wirtschafter**, 12, from Berkeley.

The production previews tonight, and runs Nov. 16-Dec. 28.

— Chris Treadway

Contra Costa Civic Theatre will hold auditions for **Dale Wasserman's** "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," directed by **Daren Carollo**, on Wednesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. Callbacks will be Monday, Nov. 21.

Roles are available for 14- to 18-year-old men, ages 30-75, and five to eight women, ages 20-45.

Prepare a one- to two-minute monologue; bring a headshot and resume; and be prepared to read from the script. There is no pay. No appointment is necessary. The show will perform Jan. 27-Feb. 25. CCCT is located at 951 Pomoa Ave. (at Mooser Lane) in El Cerrito. For information, call 510-524-9132 or e-mail cctc@sonic.net.

— Craig Lazeretti

The El Cerrito Art Association will feature a program on Japanese brush writing and painting at the group's next meeting on Monday, Nov. 14, at 7:30 p.m. The speaker is **H.E. Davey**, director of the Sennin Foundation Center for Japanese Cultural

Arts, located in Albany, and author of a "Brush Meditation: A Japanese Way to Mind & Body Harmony."

The El Cerrito Art Association meets in the Garden Room (City Council Chambers) of the El Cerrito Community Center, Moser Lane at Ashby Avenue.

— Craig Lazeretti

Residents are invited to submit photos, drawings and paintings of Albany scenes for a postcard contest sponsored by the Albany Arts Committee. The winning images will be printed on postcards that will be sold by local merchants. All proceeds will benefit the committee's projects to support the arts in Albany.

Send one to five prints, slides or color inkjet or laser prints with a \$10 entry fee (check payable to City of Albany) to: Images of Albany Contest, Albany Arts Committee, Recreation & Community Services, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany 94706. Entries should include contact information. Participants don't need to live in Albany, but the art must depict an Albany scene. The deadline is Dec. 1. For more information, call 510-524-9283.

— Alan Lopez

Have an item about a scholarship, an award, an interesting vacation or other experience that you'd like to share with other Journal readers? If you have a photo, print or digital, we can use those, too (sorry, we cannot return print photos). Send it to the editor, by e-mailing: journal@cctimes.com, or mailing to: Neighbors, The Journal, 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806.

Cerrito Theater work begins with ceremony

■ Groundbreaking event for vintage cinema, which operated from 1937 to 1966, and is expected to reopen in 10 months

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

Donning hard hats and ceremonial shovels, members of El Cerrito's redevelopment agency board and others recently broke ground for renovations of the Cerrito Theater.

About 50 people attended last Friday's ceremony, which was cordoned off by yellow "caution" tape in front of the theater on San Pablo Avenue, just south of Central.

When it opens, the theater will mimic the formula of the Parkway Theater in Oakland. Theater-going at the Parkway involves beer and restaurant-quality food accompanying the films.

"I think the Cerrito Theater will be another venue to bring people together, have visitors visit us, and spend money in our city," said redevelopment agency board chair **Letitia Moore** to applause.

Before digging into the ceremonial pile of dirt during the ceremony, Moore thanked city staff for their work on the project. They included Redevelopment Manager **Lori Trevino**, Community Development Director **Mitch Oshinsky**, Public Works Director **Jerry Bradshaw**, City Manager

Scott Hanin and Redevelopment Attorney **Karen Tiedemann**.

Friends of the Cerrito Theater Co-Chair **Dianne Brenner** thanked the Friends' steering committee. They are: Co-chair **Ann Lehman**, **Scott Badler**, **Allan Essex**, **Bonnie MacKenzie**, **Al Miller**, **Linda Moss**, **Amy Rogers**, **Abby Thorne-Lyman**, **Art Tressler** and **David Weinstein**. Residents **Lori Dair** and **Pam Challinor**, two early supporters of the project, were also named.

Kyle and **Catherine Fischer**, the operators of the Parkway and the Cerrito, helped break ground, along with architect **Jerri Holan**, **Lehman** and **Brenner**.

The redevelopment agency is spending more than \$5 million

on the project. The theater, which operated from 1937 to 1966, is expected to open in 10 months.

The Friends are raising money to preserve some of the historic elements of the theater, and are accepting contributions for its donor recognition program. Donors give between \$100 and \$4,999 will be recog-

nized on permanent plaques in the theater. Donors of up to \$99 will be recognized on the Friends' Web site.

A donation of \$5,000 or more will get the donor a star in the sidewalk in front of the theater. Twenty stars are available.

For information, call 510-273-9250 or visit cerritotheater.org.

OF THE WEEK

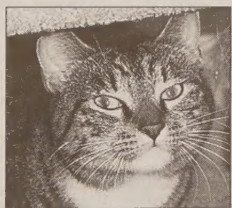
BERKELEY — The following animals may be available for adoption at the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

Dogs: 6-month-old male mixed mix white and brown; 10-month-old male Belgian mixed mix black; 2-year-old male spaniel mix brown; 7-month-old male cattledog mix speckled; 2-year-old female mixed mix brindle; 9-week-old male herding breed mix chocolate; 9-week-old male mixed breed mix brown and white; 9-week-old male herding mix tan; 12-week-old female terrier mix tan; 12-week-old female terrier mix brindle; 10-month-old female herding mix black and white; 1-year-old male corgi/terrier mix; 10-month-old male pit bull brindle.

Cats: 8-year-old male DSH black and white; 2-year-old female DSH black tabby; 10-year-old female DLH tortoiseshell; 4-year-old male DSH black tabby; 10-month-old DMH dilute tortoiseshell; 1-year-old female DSH black tabby; 2-year-old female Lynx point tabby mix; 5-year-old female DSH black tabby; 1-year-old female DSH black tabby; 5-month-old male black; kittens of various sizes and colors.

DLH: domestic long hair; DSH: domestic medium hair; DSH: domestic short hair.

Adoption fee: dogs \$125; cats \$40 — including neutering and age-appropriate shots. There is an overnight hold period. The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth Avenue, Berkeley. Its hours are 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Information: www.berkeleyhumane.org or 510-845-7755.



BERKELEY-EAST BAY HUMANE SOCIETY

MAGGIE is a 2-year-old female domestic short hair black tabby cat, and may be available for adoption from the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society. Maggie was surrendered to the shelter along with her friend **Charlie** because her owners could no longer keep them. Charlie has found a new home, but Maggie is still waiting for a family to call her own. For more information about Maggie or other animals available for adoption, call or visit the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.



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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIALS

Improve the screening

THE TIMING COULDN'T have been worse for the West Contra Costa school district. Two days before district officials asked voters to dig into their pockets and approve \$400 million in bonds to fix rundown schools, an investigation found that the soil engineer hired by the district submitted allegedly fraudulent reports that may have endangered the lives of 5,700 students.

Reporter Shirley Dang reports in today's Journal that the district will have to conduct new engineering tests to make sure school buildings are built on safe ground. A Journal analysis found that the resulting delays will cost \$10 million.

The money to finance the \$550 million project, one of the biggest school building efforts in California, came from \$450 million in previously approved voter bonds and nearly \$50 million in state funds. If a good chunk of public money has been squandered, the district, which already has a checkered financial history, is in large part to blame.

Clearly, no one bothered to conduct a thorough background check on Zuhayr Nizam-Aldine or his San Francisco-based company Globe Engineers, before awarding him \$224,000 work. If they did, we don't see how they could have missed the multiple bankruptcies the contractor has filed in the past 10 years.

At the time the district hired Globe in 2002, the company already had a history of questionable practices dating back to 1998 on file with the state Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

The Department of Consumer Affairs filed a complaint accusing Nizam-Aldine of fraud, negligence, incompetence, and breach of contract, stemming from seven complaints. His geotechnical and civil engineering licenses were revoked in August 2004, and he was fined \$40,000.

The West Contra Costa school district is suing the engineer in Contra Costa County Superior Court, alleging that he charged \$40,000 for soil tests his company never performed and for other tests that were never requested.

The complaint also alleges that Globe turned in reports that didn't meet state guidelines, causing costly construction delays.

After all of the money that has gone into repairing West County schools, it is a scandal that parents must now worry whether the campuses they're children attend are, literally, built on shaky ground.

At Portola Middle School in El Cerrito, Globe's report found that there was no risk of a landslide. The reality, however, according to the district, is that the school sits on landslide deposits and may need to be moved to a flat portion of the campus. Another possible alternative is to lodge long piers in the hillside to keep dirt from collapsing onto the campus during an earthquake.

Nizam-Aldine's attorney told the Journal that the allegations against his client are false, and that the district is using him as a scapegoat to cover up its financial woes.

If, however, the evidence suggests that the company did perform shoddy work that potentially endangered the lives of students, the district attorney should waste no time in filing criminal charges. The district, meanwhile, needs to do a better job of screening the people with which it conducts business.

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 916 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

East Bay Regional Parks

Jean Sir: Ward 1 (Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Kensington, part of Pinole, and San Pablo). E-mail: jsir@ebparks.org

AC Transit

Joe Wallace: Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

Steged Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at www.steged.sdst.ca.us.

NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Emergency numbers

El Cerrito or Kensington fire, police or medical: 911.
Non-emergency:
El Cerrito and Kensington Fire — 510-215-4450.
El Cerrito Police — 510-237-3233.
Kensington Police — 510-233-1214;
Business line 510-526-4141.
Sewer problems: Stege Sanitary Service, 510-524-4667.
Water services: East Bay Municipal Utility District, 510-287-1380, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays, or 510-835-3000 after 4:30 p.m.

Libraries

El Cerrito — 6510 Stockton Ave. Open noon-8 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.
Kensington — 61 Arlington Ave. Open noon-8 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.
510-524-3043.

Parks and recreation

El Cerrito Recreation Programs — Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane.
Meeting rooms, classes, pool, 510-215-

County Supervisors

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dst1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarrson@co.alameda.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395
Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

School boards

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

4370.

Canyon Trail Art Center — 6757 Gatto St., El Cerrito. Instruction for children and adults. 510-215-4370 or 510-215-4394.

Kensington Recreation — Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 510-525-0292.

Senior centers

El Cerrito Committee on Aging — Meets at 3 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane. Ellen Paasch, 510-215-4340.

Christ Lutheran Senior Center — 780 Ashbury Ave. Meets 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays. 510-524-1050.

St. John's Senior Center — 6500 Gladys Ave. Meets 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesdays. 510-237-3808.

The Open House — 6500 Stockton Ave. Meets 9 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays. 510-215-4340.

Kensington Senior Activity Center — Meets 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursdays at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. 510-526-9146.

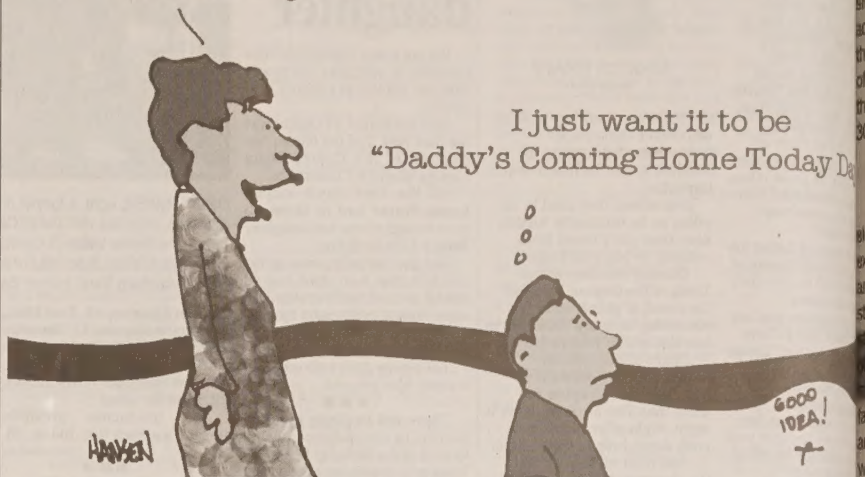
Public schools

Main office — 510-234-3825. Information office: 510-620-2245. www.wcusd.k12.ca.us.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER

Jesse, today is Veterans Day.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Real price of 'traffic-calming measures'

I read with interest your reports about traffic-calming measures on Marin Avenue, where a four-lane artery is choked to a two-lane road (Oct. 28).

Along the same vein, I also read your article about Deputy Fire Chief David Orth reporting to the council that the city's traffic-calming circles are slowing down emergency vehicles significantly; then there are the capillary streets that have been completely blocked off for quite some years now.

I'm certain pro-traffic-calming measures people in Berkeley (and Albany) realize there are consequences to all decisions and a price to pay for what's gained. They know they are gaining something and are aware of some of the tradeoffs (typically at other people's expenses), but may not be aware of the true long-term consequences to themselves, their children, their elders and their pets.

I speak of the long-term effects of air pollution.

For a few years, I lived at the intersection of Telegraph and Ashby. Every summer weekend, I had to escape the area as early in the day as I could — the acrid air of the traffic jam (idling vehicles) at that intersection was horrendous. I chose to live there, so I dealt with the consequences without affecting the larger community that needed to use those roads, as designed.

Having been around Berkeley for 23 years, I've witnessed the impact of the traffic-calming measures at the Marin Circle and thought to myself, "They are trading off traffic-calming with more air pollution."

Just because Albany residents are trading off traffic safety and bike lanes with more dirty air, does not mean Berkeley should do the same. Surely, there are more intelligent alternatives. I do not use lower Marin for commuting, and I will try not to drive Marin during the summer months, except when I cross the border into Albany.

By the way, I also chose not to live where they block off streets or have traffic-calming circles; I know that if I have a heart attack, the fire department will get to me ASAP. You tell them, Deputy Fire Chief Orth!

Ching-chi (C.C.) Wu
Berkeley

Albany waterfront development

I am a student at UC Berkeley.

Recently, I was in Los Angeles with some friends and stopped at several shopping centers in the metropolitan area: The Grove in Los Angeles, The Commons at Calabasas, and The Promenade at Westlake, in Westlake Village.

I am still in awe of the centers and, after returning home to the Bay Area, only wished we could have something comparable.

The Starbucks at Barnes & Noble at The Promenade was open until 11 p.m. on Friday night; my friends and I enjoyed the bustle that lasted much later into the night on the center's outdoor patio seating area.

I did some research when I returned and found that the three centers were operated by the same developer: Caruso Affiliated. Looking at the firm's future development plans, I became very excited to see that we might have a Caruso center built at Golden Gate Fields in Albany.

This area needs more destinations such as the shopping centers in Los Angeles — I know I'd make trips to them. And if more people would have fun and dynamic places to go, perhaps they'd keep themselves out of boredom and, therefore, out of trouble/involvement in illegal activities.

To see there is such a controversy over the Albany waterfront development is quite disappointing. I understand the environmental impact a waterfront property such as the proposal for Golden Gate Fields could have, but as long as the developer works closely with the city of Albany, as well as local environmental groups, I think a development there could be really quite promising.

Adrian Bellomo
Berkeley

Present cross-section of opinion

I was disappointed by The Journal's Oct. 21 article, "Developer presents its vision for Albany's waterfront." Reading the headline, I expected the article would describe the Caruso waterfront proposal and report community reaction.

I attended three public presentations of Caruso's proposal a couple of weeks ago. Each had more than 40 attendees. At the end of each, a majority of the attendees indicated a favorable reaction to the proposal. The Journal should have included a cross-section of opinion from within the community.

Instead, the article begins and ends with Robert Cheasty's predictable negative comments. His long-professed distaste for anything pertaining to Magna or Caruso offered nothing new to the discussion.

Cheasty once again called for an Albany waterfront park, ignoring that Albany already has a 36-acre waterfront park and that Caruso's plan provides for a 2.25-acre Fleming Point Park, a completed Albany Bay Trail, doubling the size of the wetlands, restoring the pier and beach, doubling the required beach setback, and numerous other features, all at no cost to Albany or its taxpayers.

Only one other Albany resident is quoted in the article, and her reaction to the proposal is described as "Las Vegas along the waterfront" — code words for gambling casinos, naked showgirls and tacky architecture.

None of these have a constituency in Albany and are the furthest things from Caruso's proposal. Let's leave Las Vegas in Las Vegas and consider the Caruso proposal on its own merits, rather than in the baseless characterizations of its opponents.

The Journal's July 1 editorial concerning Albany waterfront planning called on

WRITE TO THE JOURNAL

Letters to the editor and guest commentaries reflect the opinion of the writer and must include the author's first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification.

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the City Council to bring greater unity to that process, yet the slant in such as in the Oct. 21 Journal makes council's effort to provide credibility on this issue significantly less.

Traffic-calming boondoggle

For all of us nonresidents of Albany or Berkeley who had this traffic strosity foisted on us, I observe that one has really looked at why this happened. I'd call it the "airport in backyard" syndrome.

We've all heard of new residents moved next to an airport that had been there for decades, and immediately began to protest the presence of the airport.

If you participated in the so-called hearings when the Marin Avenue came up in Albany, most of the complaining had recently moved here.

Come on. The traffic is only "calm" during rush hour. The rest of the day everyone goes 40 miles per hour. During rush hour, the traffic on streets popular to Marin has increased exponentially.

What did this solve? Berkeley's ways been anti-car, so I guess it's an excuse for making Marin unusable. Albany destroyed this great east-west artery because of a minority of residents. Albany should be ashamed.

Steve Stuchlik
El Cerrito

Unhappy about Marin Avenue

Thank you for the article on the Marin Avenue traffic-calming project (Oct. 21).

I do not think the city of Albany assumes that because we are not happy with them to complain, we are happy with the so-called "traffic-calming" project.

I am a business owner on San Pablo Avenue at Marin, and my clientele are very frustrated with this new traffic jam. Many of my clientele come from Walnut Creek or Orinda, through Tilden Park to avoid Interstate 80. Even clientele from Oakland want to avoid the traffic on I-80, take the Luther King to Marin and Marin to San Pablo Avenue.

Naturally, they all end up coming down Marin Avenue, which used to be quick, efficient way to avoid traffic. Now, the same number of cars are stuck from two lanes into one long, slow lane.

The left-hand turn lanes are great except for the fact that it takes forever for the traffic to clear enough to make a turn because two lanes of cars have been reduced to one long, slow lane in the other direction.

This is the biggest waste of road I've ever seen. Sure, the few bicyclists riding the road are happy and calling it city of Albany. But there are so many of them! Almost all day, those lanes are completely empty, while the cars that used to be in two lanes are jammed into one slow lane.

It is frustrating, exasperating, and a waste of space.

I was happy to learn from your article that the city is going to be reconsidering this issue in three months and then one year.

I never thought to register one complaint, since an election did not put my voice heard. I know many other people feel the same way I do.

Dr. Polly Bloomer
Albany

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of the most powerful ways of creating acceptance and mutual respect in our society. We are a community of learners. Students, parents and teachers work together to create an environment that encourages curiosity, problem solving, creativity, intellectual perseverance, teamwork and play. Our classrooms foster risk taking, individual challenges and cooperative exploration.

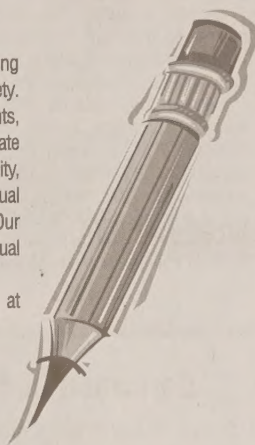
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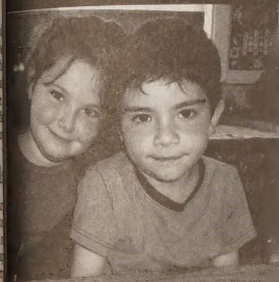
Information Meetings Nov. 15, 2005... 9:00 - 10:30 am
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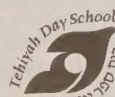
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Tehiyah welcomes students of all religious and ethnic backgrounds. It is a sanctuary of the Center for Jewish Living and Learning of the Jewish Community Federation of the Greater East Bay and Koorai Foundation.

Middle School Information Evening
Thursday, December 1, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Kindergarten Information Brunch
Sunday, January 8, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

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developing confident, responsible Christians. Please note that you are invited to attend our Prospective Family Meetings on Tuesday, November 15 at 9 am and Sunday, January 22, 2006 at 10:15 am. Check our website for more information about the school: sttheresaschool.org

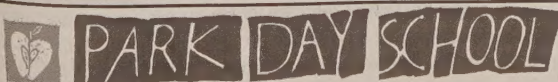


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K-6 program
370 43rd St.
Oakland 94609

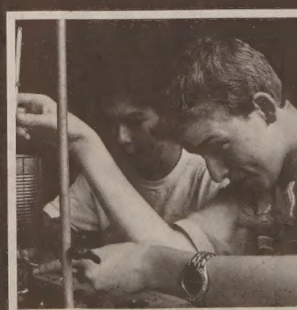
7-8 Program
215 Ridgeway Ave.,
Oakland 94611

Park Day School and Community School of the East Bay announce that our schools will combine. Community School will become Park Day School's 7th & 8th grade program. As one K-8 school, Park Day School will provide a strong and progressive program for our students.

- Academic excellence in a progressive, multicultural program
- Small class size
- Activity-based, child-centered curricula
- Interdisciplinary & project-based curriculum
- Student empowerment & leadership building skills
- Extensive arts program in grades 7 & 8
- Commitment to social justice and service learning

For information about Open Houses for the 7 & 8 program and to register for information meetings and tours, contact Flo Hodes at 510.653.0317 x101
www.parkdayschool.org

Engaging Minds, Empowering Learners, Opening Possibilities

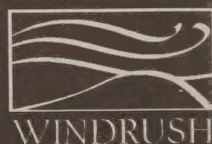


Kindergarten-8th grade Information Nights:

Jan 5, 2006 at 7:00 pm

Tours of Windrush are
available by reservation

Please call for
more information



Windrush School
1800 Elm Street
El Cerrito, CA 94530
510-970-7580
www.windrush.org

SCHOOLS



At Prospect Sierra we believe...

Learning is the young person's pathway to personal growth.

School is both challenging and joyous.

School is a community.

Join us for a tour of the school.

Elementary School, K-4
510.236.5800

Middle School, 5-8
510.528.5800

MAIN POINTS OF ENTRY:
Kindergarten and Sixth Grade



www.prospectsierra.org

Prospect Sierra School

Prospect Sierra is an independent co-ed school located on two beautiful campuses in the El Cerrito Hills (San Francisco Bay Area). Both the elementary (K-4) and the middle school (5-8) campuses are adjacent to city parks and have sweeping views of the Bay. The enriched learning environment includes master teachers, challenging and meaningful academics, high school preparatory curricula, science labs and technology centers, modern and expansive libraries, comprehensive performing and visual arts programs, interscholastic sports, performing arts and sports center, French and Spanish language instruction, service learning program, after school program, financial assistance, and school bus service.

Prospect Sierra School embodies several key assumptions in philosophy and daily practice: that learning is the young person's pathway to personal growth; that school should be both challenging and joyous; that school is a community through which students, teachers and parents develop trust, demonstrate cooperation, show respect, and acquire an understanding of the rights and needs of others; and that diversity, in its many human forms, brings quality and strength to our welcoming and inclusive school.

To learn more about us, please visit our website at www.prospectsierra.org or call 510.236.5800.

Beacon Day School

The Best Kept Secret in the East Bay

Beacon's founding premise is to educate children for life in today's knowledge-based world, by providing the tools, skills and approach that establish the independent learner. At Beacon Day School children are taught how to learn, not just what to learn. The approach promotes the growth of all students and inspires, challenges and nurtures the achiever.

Beacon students are confident, competent and committed. They are risk-takers who experience success through academic mastery and they excel at the finest high schools, colleges and universities.

Beacon Day School offers an early childhood education program, as well as elementary and middle school curriculum. Beacon's unique campus is located on the Oakland waterfront at Embarcadero Cove, with easy access to downtown Oakland, East Bay communities and San Francisco. BART, ferries and major freeways are minutes away. Parents interested in a powerful education for their children should call 510-437-2311 to schedule a tour.

Black Pine Circle

Black Pine Circle School, a K-8th grade school in Berkeley, is celebrating a year with a number of exciting changes.

John Carlstrom joins BPC as the new Head of School. John has over 20 years of experience, most recently as the Assistant Head of Middle School Head of the Hamlin School of San Francisco. Carlstrom brings to BPC his experiential, interdisciplinary, humanistic approach to learning that epitomizes BPC's commitment to excellence.

BPC also welcomes Kassandre Harper-Cotton as the Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator to lead and support efforts in community service and student and faculty development. This year, BPC will inaugurate its Founders' Building, a new classroom space and a 2,000 square foot library, named after the school's original founders.

Black Pine Circle School, established in 1973, is a K-8th school in Berkeley, California, specializing in the discovery method taking care to supplement core subjects with interdisciplinary endeavors. Visit us this fall to learn more about our 2006-2007 enrollment (see ad on this page for Open House).

The Renaissance School

The Renaissance School was founded twelve years ago in celebration of the human spirit. The school is committed to providing an education that goes beyond what is taught in the classroom. Inspired and grounded in the pedagogical principles of the 20th Century's most prominent educators, Maria Montessori and Zoltán Kodály, The Renaissance School inspires a passion for excellence and nurtures curiosity and imagination. The Kodály Music Program and the Language Program, along with the study of the history and geography of both disciplines, are fully integrated into the curriculum. Students at The Renaissance School learn a second language from native speakers in "immersion classrooms." Students thrive in a multicultural and multi-ethnic environment provided by the faculty who represent many countries and continents. In order to continue the strong commitment to students and their families, the school is expanding to a middle school. We will be accepting applications for the 2006 school year starting in October. We still have some space for the Elementary level for the 2004-05 school year.

Berkwood Hedge School

Berkwood Hedge School is an independent K - 5th grade school in Berkeley.

A deep commitment to a challenging and thoughtful academic program is our top priority. Guided by our developmental philosophy, we see children as competent, articulate, and curious individuals who learn by doing. Our experienced teachers create lessons and activities that challenge and engage a diverse range of students. Our teachers excel at bringing social and academic learning together in emotionally safe classroom environments. Curriculum is designed to help students ask questions about society, examine popular culture, and think critically. Social justice and service learning activities are integrated throughout the academic program. Our core curriculum of mathematics, language arts, social studies, and science is supplemented by a vibrant enrichment program including Spanish, visual art, music, drama, and physical education.

At Berkwood Hedge we strive to be a healthy school, modeling environmental awareness and conservation for our families and community. We are located at 1809 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Please Call for more information (510) 883-6991 or Visit www.berkwood.org

Archway School

Archway School invites you to an information evening to learn about our school and chat with teachers, parents, and staff.

Parents of students entering Kindergarten-4th grade are invited to join us on Sunday, December 4 between 4:00 and 6:00 at our Oakland campus (250 41st Street). Please call 510-547-4747 to RSVP. Childcare is available.

Parents of students entering 5th-8th grades are invited to come to our Berkeley campus at 1940 Virginia Street (near Milvia) on December 4 between 4:00 and 6:00. Call 510-547-4747 to RSVP.

Archway School has a long and proud tradition of providing a rich hands-on curriculum to its students in Kindergarten through Grade 8. We offer our students a unique, wonderful environment for developing academic excellence, personal excellence. At Archway we are committed to engaging children's natural curiosity; engaging students in their own learning, respecting individual progress, social development and service to the community, maintaining diversity in our classrooms, curriculum, and community.

We are very pleased to announce our expansion opening of our Berkeley upper school campus. For our new site include a gymnasium, multi-media lab, lab and proximity to Berkeley's "gourmet ghetto."

For information about tours at either campus or to submit an application, please call 510-547-4747 (Oakland) or 510-849-4747 (Berkeley). Visit us online at www.archwayschool.org. Archway School is a program of Woods Edge, Inc., a nonprofit organization founded in 1991.

BERKWOOD HEDGE SCHOOL

UPCOMING TOURS

Wed. Nov. 16 at 7 p.m.
Tues. Nov. 29 at 8:45 a.m.
Wed. Dec. 7 at 8:45 a.m.
Tues. Dec. 13 at 8:45 a.m.
Wed. Jan. 4 at 8:45 a.m.
Tues. Jan. 10 at 8:45 a.m.

Please call to reserve a space
510 883-6991
www.berkwood.org

- Kindergarten - Fifth Grade
- Developmentally appropriate teaching
- Strong academic program
- Enrichment in Spanish, visual arts, music, movement, drama, science & P.E.
- Extended care from 7:30 am - 6 pm
- Diverse community and multi-cultural curriculum
- First Alameda County School to be certified a Bay Area Green Business
- Tuition assistance program

1809 Bancroft Way
Berkeley, CA 94703

A LEADER IN DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION

ARCHWAY SCHOOL



K-8 GRADES.
Challenging, hands-on curriculum, excellent teachers, small classes, and kids who love school.

K-4 OPEN HOUSE
250 41st Street Oakland
December 4th, 2-4pm.
(childcare available)
Please call 510-849-4747 to RSVP

5-8 OPEN HOUSE
1940 Virginia Street, Berkeley
December 4th, 4-6pm.
(childcare available)
Please call 510-849-4747 to RSVP



www.archwayschool.org

Why Parents Choose Beacon Day School...

At Beacon Day School we create passionate learners for life, with the skills, courage, competence and commitment to achieve whatever they need to accomplish, now and in the future. Isn't that what you want for your child?

Visit a school like no other. Join us for an Open House

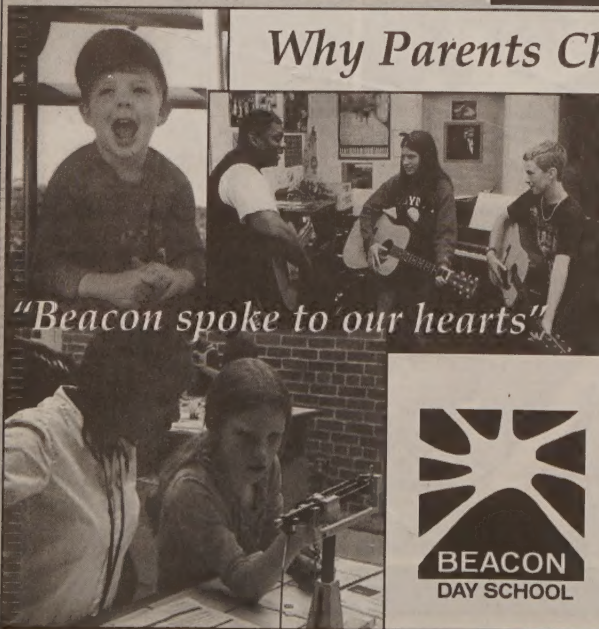
Wednesday, 11/30 Elementary School (K-5)
Friday, 12/2 Middle School (6-8)
Tuesday, 12/6 Early Childhood (age 3+)

All Open Houses begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. and last 60 to 90 minutes. Open Houses are for adults only and reservations are required.

Can't wait for an Open House? Join one of our Weekly Tours. Call to reserve space for an Open House or Tour. 510.437.2311 • www.beaconday.org

Conveniently located on the Oakland waterfront with easy access to BART, ferries and major freeways.

Experience the Power of a Beacon Education
early childhood • elementary • middle school



"Beacon spoke to our hearts"



THE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

WWW.COLLEGE-PRP

6100 BROADWAY, OAKLAND
(510) 652-4344

All interested students and families are welcome

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, November 12
at 11:00 am

&
Sunday, November 13
at 11:00 am & 2:00 pm

CPS, an independent sector school (grades 9-12), admits students regardless of race, color, sex, or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, or physical handicap.

PROGRAMS

Tehiyah Day School

Tehiyah Day School is a Jewish community day school which learning through active intellectual inquiry, the practice of and by honoring diversity. Tehiyah adheres to the naturalism in both Jewish and American living and respects and traditions of all students.

dynamic general and Judaic curricula, school-wide classroom activities, and informal interactions stimulate curiosity and are designed to foster a meaningful aesthetic experience. Tehiyah's high academic standards are further vibrant visual and performing arts, athletics, technology, school programs. The school often becomes a focus for life and a source of enduring friendships.

Tehiyah aspires to nurture the unique potential of every child and each may continue to pursue lifelong learning.

Black Pine Circle School

GRADE & EXTENDED DAY CARE

The Model for Discovery-Based Teaching Since 1973.

Learning academic environment, with a comprehensive performing arts program, produces the most innovative and dynamic life-long learners!

For more about enrollment for 2006-07 at one of our fall open houses:

Sundays, 3:00 pm
Nov. 13 (K-8); Dec. 4 (6-8)

located in west Berkeley, one block from the I-80 University Ave. exit.



2027 SEVENTH STREET
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94710
TEL: 510.845.0876, 6-8 TEL: 510.644.1023
www.bpcweb.net

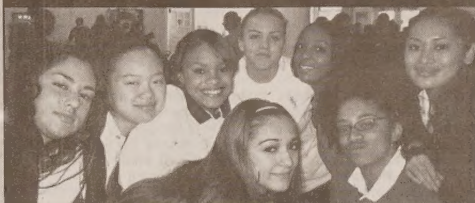
A Holy Names Graduate is Intellectually Competent

Holy Names High School is committed to quality education, offering a strong college preparatory program. In addition to emphasizing mastery of the subject, the goal of each course is to develop critical thinking skills necessary for college and career success and to prepare students to assume a responsible place in society. Courses include both Honor and Advanced Placement courses for those students who are eligible. A variety of enrichment classes, particularly in the Visual and Performing Arts areas, are available as well.

It is expected that every Holy Names graduate successfully complete a curricular program that meets the requirements for admission to the University of California. Indeed, Holy Names graduation requirements not only meet, but also exceed those recommended by the UC system.

HOLY NAMES HIGH SCHOOL

The Bay Area's Choice for Young Women!



Open House
December 6
7:00pm-9:00pm

Placement Exam
Saturday, January 21
8:30am-12 noon
Call today to reserve your seat!

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS
IN THE OAKLAND HILLS

4600 HARBORD DRIVE
OAKLAND, CA 94618
510-450-1110 EXT. 119
WWW.HNHSOAKLAND.ORG

Bishop O'Dowd High School

Bishop O'Dowd High School is a fully accredited Catholic co-educational, college preparatory high school with an extensive Honors and Advanced Placement program. Its rigorous college preparatory curriculum includes all levels of math and science, a superb English program, comprehensive history, social studies and religious studies curricula, physical education at all levels, computer programming and multimedia design courses, and a fully integrated arts, music and drama program. The 1150 students at Bishop O'Dowd participate in an extensive student activities program that includes a vital student government, an award-winning Junior Statesmen program, Dragon Ambassadors, Key Club and more than 30 student clubs that invite students to develop their interests and abilities, while providing opportunities for leadership and social and emotional growth. Bishop O'Dowd has a tradition of athletic excellence second to none in the Bay Area, and promotes full participation for a wide range of student athletes. Over 800 athletes participate in 16 interscholastic sports on 44 teams.



Bishop O'Dowd High School

A Tradition of Excellence

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, Dec. 4
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

- Catholic, Co-educational, College Preparatory High School
- Excellent Academic, Athletic and Student Activities Programs
- Student Campus Ministry Team and Service Learning Program
- Innovative Technology in the Classroom
- Financial Aid Available



9500 Stearns Ave, Oakland (510) 577-9100
www.bishopodowd.org

Why a Montessori School?

Because who your child becomes
is as important as what your child learns

A **Montessori School** is a dynamic learning environment where the highest academic challenges are presented, where academic and practical life skills are developed hand-in-hand to produce a student uniquely equipped to meet challenges wherever they are presented.

To learn more, join us at an upcoming information session and campus tour.

INFORMATION SESSIONS:

Sunday January 22, 2006 3pm

RESERVATIONS: 510.531.8566

Kindergarten • Elementary • Middle School



The Renaissance School



The Renaissance School

going beyond the expected

3668 Dimond Avenue, Oakland CA 94602 . www.TheRenaissanceSchool.org . license# 010214382

SCHOOLS And PROGRAM

Zion Lutheran School

"Established in 1883, Zion Lutheran School continues to provide a fully accredited academic curriculum within a Christian community for students in grades K-8. We provide a stellar, yet quite affordable, academic program as well as various recreational outlets." Our campus is safely nestled within the Oakland/Piedmont Hills.

Students excel in our small classes. Our devoted teachers ensure the success of each student. We see to it that each child receives the individual attention that he/she deserves, focusing on high self-esteem and academic excellence.

Beginning in a full-day kindergarten, Zion students benefit from a full-time P.E. instructor, interscholastic sports, and an excellent music program.

We encourage creativity in arts and crafts and drama productions. We endorse a true appreciation for diversity, with multi-cultural fairs and instruction in foreign language. Science fairs and field trips enrich the students' understanding of lessons taught within the classroom.

Zion Lutheran School is devoted, not just to the student, but to the family. We provide before and after school child care and encourage family involvement in the school. Our active Parent Forum work with our administration and teachers, developing strong relationships and trust.

We work with each prospective family separately, offering tours of the school based on personal availability. Please call for more information and to arrange for a tour (510) 530-7909.

Saklan Valley School

Small class size makes a big difference in the quality of your child's education. Research has demonstrated that classes of 15 or below have a dramatic positive impact on academic achievement, social development and emotional well being when compared to classrooms of 20 or above. Saklan Valley School features a top notch academic preparation in classes that average 12 and are capped at 16. Our program also provides excellent enriching education in foreign language, arts & music, science & computers, and physical education.

Saklan educates children from all over the East Bay beginning in Preschool (age 3) and running through to 8th Grade. We are located on a lovely small campus under redwood trees in beautiful Moraga Valley and we offer shuttle transportation from Alamo, Lafayette and Orinda.

Open House Nov. 13th 2-4 pm.
For a personal tour of the campus, call us at 925.376.7900 or visit our website at www.saklan.org. Consider investing in educational excellence for your child by choosing Saklan's superior education.

Bead Inspirations

Browse through some of our newest items, including sterling silver ear threads, as well as the very popular Bead Smith Tubular mesh metallic ribbon, to create beautiful, modern jewelry! Attend one of our many inspiring classes to learn to make holiday gifts from the heart and give yourself rejuvenating creative therapy. In most cases, you'll leave class with finished jewelry that you designed and made. We'll make it easy for you, and it's fun! See class samples in the store or at.

Upcoming beginner classes (age 14 & up):

Basic Necklace/Bracelet - Sat, Nov. 5; 10:00am-2:00pm

Fri, Nov. 18; 6:30-9:30pm

(Each is a one-day class, offered two separate dates)

Basic Earrings - Sat, Nov. 12; 3:00-6:00pm

Sun, Nov. 27; 11:00am-2:00pm

(Each is a one-day class, offered two separate dates)

Floating Illusion Necklace - Sat, Nov. 5; 3:00pm-7:00pm

Ribbon Necklace - Sun, Nov. 6; 12:30pm-4:30pm

Knotted Necklace - Fri, Nov. 25; 3:00pm-7:00pm

Crystal Bead Ring - Sun, Nov. 27; 3:00pm-6:00pm

Upcoming intermediate classes:

Tassel Necklace - Sat, Nov. 12; 10:00am-2:00pm Part 1

Sat, Nov. 19; 10:00am-2:00pm Part 2

Sat, Nov. 19; 3:00pm-7:00pm

Herringbone Bezel - Sun, Nov. 20; 4:00pm-7:00pm

Wire Work Necklace - Fri, Nov. 25; 10:00am-2:00pm

Wire Bezel Cabochon - Sat, Nov. 26; 10:00am-2:00pm

Intermediate Earrings - Sat, Nov. 26; 3:00pm-7:00pm

Beyond jewelry classes:

Embroidered Buttons - Sun, Nov. 13; 12:00pm-5:00pm

Beaded Ornament - Sun, Nov. 20; 10:00am-3:00pm

Check for complete class schedule and class fees. Small classes, personal attention; sign up early. Sign up online, by phone at 510-337-1203, or in the store at 1544 Park St., Alameda.

Redwood Day School

Students flourish and excel at RDS. We have designed a program that melds rigorous academics, a broad engaging curriculum, a rich set of extracurricular activities, with a keen attention to the emotional and developmental needs of students.

Redwood Day School promotes academic excellence through a comprehensive program that is developmentally appropriate and supportive of student growth. Students learn from each other and from being engaged by stellar teachers. Students learn best when they are doing. At Redwood Day School, students become scientists, mathematicians, historians, and writers in the classroom. Growth often takes place through project-based learning, in which students acquire knowledge, master skills, applying both to challenging long-term tasks. When children love their education they become life-long learners.

Currently our 312 students come from eleven cities and represent 45% students and families of varying ethnic communities and 55% from European descent families. The application process continues through mid-January when you are able to learn about the school through Open Houses, tours and receptions. For more information, please visit our website at www.rdschool.org or call Lara Hale at 510.534.0804 ext. 224.

Bentley School Maybeck High School

Bentley School is a co-educational learning environment, teaching grades K-12 with campuses in both Oakland and Lafayette. Bentley offers students a highly academic curriculum along with the benefits of music, art and foreign language.

Bentley School strives to inspire academic excellence, personal achievement and character by engaging students' intellect and creativity. Our comprehensive curriculum and academic program promotes a life long love and pursuit of learning. Bentley encourages students to explore their individual talents and to engage in critical thinking.

We are a community representing diverse backgrounds and experiences and strive for respectful relationships among students, teachers and parents. Bentley School encourages our students to embrace values that not only enrich themselves but the community and the world as well.

Bret Harte Middle School

"Located at the center of Oakland, Bret Harte Middle School is one of the most diverse schools in the city. Rooted in tradition since 1930, it offers many opportunities for children ready to expand their horizons.

Bret Harte's strong academic curriculum includes Algebra and Geometry. Its vibrant instrumental music program offers Jazz Band, Orchestra and Wind Ensemble. Visual Arts and Drama are also available. Students interested in foreign languages may take Spanish, French or Japanese. Additionally, Bret Harte's after school program offers a wide array of activities.

Bret Harte consistently produces students with distinguished academic achievements. Over the past five years, alumni have been accepted by top universities such as Yale, Stanford, M.I.T., Columbia, Brown, Cornell, U.C. Berkeley, U.C.L.A., U.S.C. and N.Y.U. as well as many others.

So, yes, it is possible! Your child can get a great education at one of Oakland's public middle schools, Bret Harte Middle School."

Maybeck High School is a community dedicated to learning, mutual support, responsibility. Through our high expectations academic programs and programs outside the classroom, we prepare our students for college and the tools to engage actively in the wider world.

The school is named in honor of regional architect Maybeck (1862-1957), who provides a model for the school of education. Maybeck's concern for living simply and with nature, an interest in many diverse traditions, and a respect for disciplined crafts-manship are achieved in a similar balance of traditional academic studies and exploring, preserving the natural environment. Next Information Night is October 20th at 7:00pm. For more information, please call our Admissions Director, Tara Hale.

Head-Royce School

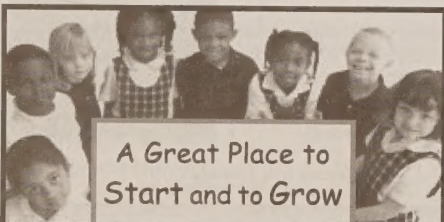
Head-Royce School is an independent K-12 school founded in 1887 in Berkeley. Head-Royce School for Girls, a sister school, was founded in 1964 to our current campus with sweeping views of the San Francisco Bay. The school has been fully accredited since 1979.

With commitment to diversity and citizenship, Head-Royce offers a college preparatory curriculum with extensive programs in athletics, community service and education.

The school has opened the process for entry in the 2006-2007 year. With openings at all grade levels 6, 7 and 9 and limited availability in the other grades, student population averages 700 students at the Oakland site. Visit our website at www.headroyce.org

Arrowsmith Academy

Arrowsmith Academy is an independent, multi-cultural high school with over 25 years of service to the community. Arrowsmith offers a challenging college preparatory curriculum and is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. Our small classes provide students with individualized attention and allow teachers to teach to a variety of learning styles. We are conveniently located within 2 blocks of the Berkeley BART station and on the 51 bus route. For more information about applying to Arrowsmith and our upcoming Open Houses please contact the admissions office at 510-540-0440 or admissions@arrowsmith.org. You can also visit our website www.arrowsmith.org.



- Grades K-8
- Full Day Kindergarten
- Small Classes
- Christian Values
- Culturally Diverse Student Body
- Safe Campus
- Before/After School Care
- Computer Lab & Library
- Excellent Music Program
- Foreign Language Program
- Full-Time P.E. Instructor
- Large Gymnasium
- Inter-School Athletics
- School Tours Based on Your Availability

Call for A Tour: 510-530-7909

Zion Lutheran School

5201 PARK BOULEVARD, PIEDMONT, CA 94611

Bentley School

Not only in the classroom...



But on the field...

Bentley delivers excellence

Athletic Director: Rusty Taylor

- 2005 National High School Coaches Association, Coach of the Year for Girls Soccer
- Over 30 years of coaching experience
- Coached World Cup Player, Tiffany Roberts
- Coached WUSA star, Megan Horvath.
- Coached 20 All-American High School players

For more information about Bentley School please visit our website: www.bentleyschool.net

A SUPERIOR EDUCATION FOR YOUR CHILD
PRESCHOOL - ELEMENTARY - MIDDLE SCHOOL

saklan valley school

small classes & personal attention
safe, country day setting
academic excellence & character development
fully accredited by CAIS & WASC

Consider the difference a small class size can make for your child's intellectual, social, and emotional development. Our class size average is just 12.

Since 1954, Saklan has been serving families from all over the East Bay at its centrally located campus in beautiful Moraga Valley, just 15 minutes from Montclair to the West and Walnut Creek to the East. Van shuttle service provided.

Open House Nov. 13th 2-4 pm.
1678 School Street | Moraga, CA 94566
925-376-7900 | www.saklan.org

Arrowsmith ACADEMY

2300 Bancroft Way • Berkeley 94704
510/540.0440 • www.arrowsmith.org
Where Success Stories Begin.

Now Enrolling for 2006-2007 Grades 9-12 OPEN HOUSES

Tuesday, December 6 6:30-8:30PM
Tuesday, January 10 6:30-8:30PM

**R.S.V.P for
Open Houses and Student Visits
admissions@arrowsmith.org
510-540-0440**

Head-Royce School

4315 Lincoln Avenue • Oakland, CA • 94602

A K-12 independent, co-ed, college-preparatory school, fully accredited — on one beautiful campus — with 118 years of academic excellence

Outstanding academic and co-curricular programs

Commitment to scholarship, citizenship and diversity

Financial Aid available

Middle School Open House:
5 PM • Sunday, Nov. 13
Multicultural Evening
7 PM • Tuesday, Nov. 29
Call for Lower School Tours or Upper School class visits

For information, please call our Admissions Office, 510.531.3300, x2113.
www.headroyce.org

Bead Inspirations

1544 Park St.
Alameda, CA
(cross street - Lincoln)
510-337-1203 ~ www.beadinspirations.com

Browse through some of our newest items, including sterling silver ear threads, beautiful, modern jewelry! Attend one of our many inspiring classes to learn to make jewelry from the heart and give yourself rejuvenating creative therapy. In most cases, you'll leave class with finished jewelry that you designed and made. You can also take a class to make a Christmas ornament that will be sure to become a family heirloom. We'll make it easy for you, and it's fun! See class samples in the store or at.

Upcoming beginner classes (age 14 & up):
Beaded Christmas Ornament - Sun, Nov. 20; 10:00am-3:00pm
Basic Earrings - Sat, Nov. 18; 10:00am-1:00pm Sun, Nov. 27; 11:00am-2:00pm (Each is a one-day class, offered two separate dates)

Basic Necklace/Bracelet - Sun, Nov. 27; 4:00pm-8:00pm
Knotted Necklace - Fri, Nov. 25; 3:00pm-7:00pm

Upcoming intermediate classes:
Herringbone Bezel - Sat, Nov. 19; 3:00pm-7:00pm
Briolette Wrapping - Sun, Nov. 20; 4:00pm-7:00pm
Wire Work Necklace - Fri, Nov. 25; 10:00am-2:00pm
Wire Bezel Cabochon - Sat, Nov. 26; 10:00am-2:00pm
Intermediate Earrings - Sat, Nov. 26; 3:00pm-7:00pm

Check for complete class schedule and class fees. Small classes, personal attention; sign up early. Sign up online, by phone at 510-337-1203, or in the store at 1544 Park St., Alameda.

MAYBECK HIGH SCHOOL

A Small Community Dedicated to Learning Since 1972

- Fully Accredited
- College Preparatory Academic Curriculum
- Average Class Size: 12
- Travel Programs: U.S. & Abroad

Information Nights:

November 29, 2005, 7:00 p.m.
February 7, 2006, 7:00 p.m.

2362 Bancroft Way,
Berkeley • (510) 841-8489
www.maybeckhs.org
We welcome applications from all racial and ethnic groups

Where is my CHILD going to be Inspired?



REDWOOD DAY SCHOOL
Engages. Prepared. Inspired

A CHALLENGING ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT THAT BUILDS CONFIDENT STUDENTS, DEVELOPS INQUISITIVE MINDS, CULTIVATES RESPONSIBLE MEMBER OF SOCIETY.

Open Houses Tues., December 6 (K-5th) 7-9 PM
Wed., January 11 (K-8th) 9-11 A.M.
visit our website at www.rdschool.org

CALL LARA HALE AT (510) 534-0804 EXT. 224 email: lhal@rdschool.org
3245 SHEPHERD AVENUE • OAKLAND (OFF I-580, BETWEEN FRUITVALE AVE & PARK BLVD.)

KINDERGARTEN - EIGHTH GRADE
California Association of Independent Schools Accredited

YES, IT IS POSSIBLE!

Your child can get a great education at a public middle school in Oakland.

<http://breharte.ousd.k12.ca.us/>

Bret Harte Middle School

Est. 1930

- Traditional curriculum with Algebra & Geometry
- Jazz Band, Orchestra, Wind Ensemble
- Visual Arts and Drama
- French, Spanish & Japanese
- After school program with a wide array of activities

Contact the Parent Center: 879-2068 or bhparentcenter@yahoo.com

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT
Thursday, December 8 at 7 PM
3700 Coolidge Ave., Oakland 94602

Book lovers' passions begin early, stay strong

Shirley Jackson wrote in a variety of forms and styles because she was, like everyone else, a complex human being, concerned with the world in many different roles and moods. She tried to express as much of herself as possible in her work, and to explore each aspect as fully and as well as possible."

—Stanley Edgar Hyman, the introduction to "The Magic of Shirley Jackson"



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

Sometimes it seems like we spend too much time trying to be the same as everyone else and not enough time being glad we're not.

FROM TIME TO TIME, when I'm sitting at the children's desk or the reference desk at the library, I will see a clear and unrestrained young library user. Sometimes this child is talking to me and sometimes to another staff member. Either way, I'm moving that a 3- or 4-year-old can hold forth on the merits of a book, and it helps me remember my childhood, and the reason I work in libraries.

One of the pleasures of working as a children's librarian is the repeated chance to see and revisit the charm of young library users. I know many times have I seen the same desire: to corner a staff member and thrust a recently acquired book onto them, whether they have been asked for a recommendation. Of course, I do this, too — even in the middle of a reference question, I will find myself engaged in conversation about a new book or an old author's new work. I think these conversations — whether with children or adults — are a critical part of the job. They are about books, but they are also about exchanging not only the facts but also the deep understanding that books are a part of our lives.

There have been times when one of these exchanges and another patron impatiently interrupt to question. When I first started working at the reference desk, I would feel guilty leaving this brief and personal conversation, and I would abruptly stop it so I could answer the real question. However, I have come to understand that sometimes the most obvious and the most even less so, but the connection between two book lovers is as valid as the answer to a question like: Where is the computer section? Another part of this is the confidence displayed by

these book-loving children. I recently had a conversation with a youngster who was looking through one of our picture books and discovered a torn page. With the knowledge that adults are the people to go to for things like this and without shyness or a reluctance to share her thoughts, she brought me the book and showed me the page. I carefully taped the small tear and handed the book back to her, since I could see she was eager to hang on to it.

In fact, she gave me an overview of the plot and the high points of the book, much the way a children's librarian will give something called a "book talk" — which is basically giving someone enough information about the book to get them to read it. Her self-assurance really made me pause. And when I heard her describing her book to one of the clerks at the checkout desk — where she was barely tall enough to be seen — it made me smile. As I watched her skip away, books in her arms, I wished every child could keep forever the knowledge that what they think and say is important.

It is, in fact, what makes each of us unique — and that's a good thing. Sometimes it seems like we spend too much time trying to be the same as everyone else and not enough time being glad we're not.

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@ac-library.org or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720, ext. 17.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Albany Library
1000 Ave. of the Americas
510-526-3720
Monday, noon to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friends of the Albany Library will have a vintage and collectible records at its sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Stone Room of the library. At the same time, the Friends will feature an auction for very special items, including children's books in many languages and available for 50 cents and there will be a bag sale (all the items can fit in a bag) for all items from 3 to 4 p.m. For information, call the library's reference desk at Ext. 5.

Books & Tickletoons will be held on Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. in the Stone Room of the library. The program is a singer, songwriter, actor, storyteller and puppeteer who has appeared at schools, libraries and throughout the United States. Barbara Siesel of Flute & Flute has performed in major concert halls throughout the United States and Asia. This children's program, sponsored by the Albany Library, is free. All ages are welcome. Questions? Call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

Knitting groups for all ages are held on Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. and on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. Participants bring their own needles and yarn and all levels of knitters are welcome. For information on any of these programs, contact Ronnie Davis at rdavis@ac-library.org.

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to 8 p.m.; Wednesday, closed; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ Classes on the basics of the Internet will be offered from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Nov. 19 and 26. The classes will cover how to find the information you need at a Web site, search the Web and the library's many online databases, and locate library materials in the online catalog. Registration is required as space is limited. Call the library to sign up.

■ Children ages 3 and up and their families are invited on Nov. 12 at 11 a.m. for a special Children's Book Week craft program with local author Roberta Gould. Gould is the author of a number of children's craft books, including "The Kids' Multicultural Craft Book," "Kidtopia: Round the Country and Back Through Time in 60 Projects," and "Making Cool Crafts and Awesome Art." She will show some Huichol beaded bowls from Central Mexico, and will have materials available so each child can make one to take home.

■ The fall series of Lapsit story times (formerly known as Babytime and Toddler time) will continue through Nov. 17. These story times, which meet on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., are for babies and toddlers up to age 3 and their caregivers. Each meeting lasts about 20 minutes, and includes songs, bounces, games and finger play in addition to the stories. No registration required.

Kensington Library

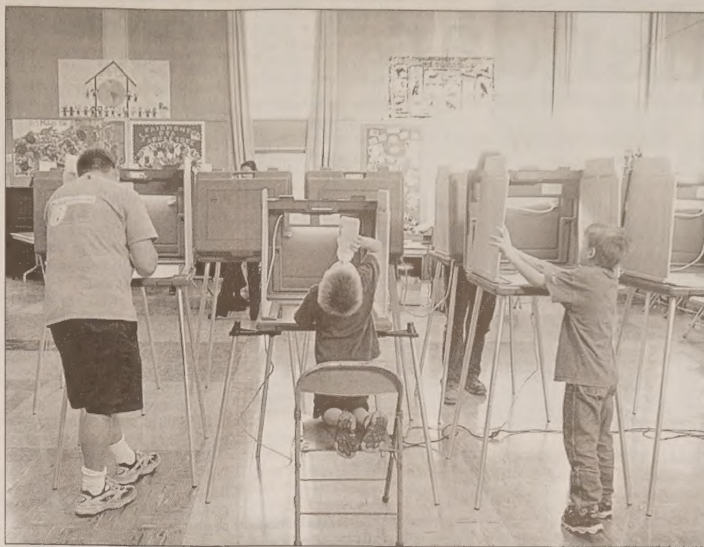
61 Arlington Ave.
510-524-3043
ccclib.org

Hours: Monday and Tuesday, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesday, closed; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ Family evening story times will be held Tuesdays at 7 p.m. except when pre-empted by special programs. Illustrator Philippe Ames will present his book "Meow! Said the Mouse" on Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. Jan Ro-bitscher and her seeing-eye dog "Christmas" will present a program on guide dogs for the blind on Nov. 19 at 11 a.m.

—Craig Lazzaretti

Library activity items may be e-mailed to journal@cctimes.com. Items should be received at least one week before publication.



SHERRY LAVARS/STAFF

EL CERRITO SCHOOL NOTES

El Cerrito High School

BRAG SHEETS: Seniors who need counselor recommendations need to pick up a brag sheet from their counselor and return it, along with envelopes, stamps, etc. at least 10 school days before the recommendation is due. Counselors would prefer all brag sheets be turned in by Dec. 1.

PIZZA FUND-RAISER: The Senior Grad Nite Committee is hosting a California Pizza Kitchen fund-raiser from Nov. 8-30. The flyer/coupon must be presented to your server or the cashier (if you are taking out an order). Additional flyers will also be available in the front office.

GARAGE SALE: Because of unfinished paperwork, the ECHS garage sale

scheduled for last Sunday was canceled. It will be rescheduled, so please continue to donate items.

SAF APPEAL: The El Cerrito Student Activities Fund (SAF) direct appeal has raised tens of thousands of dollars to support student activities for each of the last two years. Volunteers are needed to help stuff and label envelopes this Saturday. Volunteers will meet in Room 35 (Coach Austin's) from noon until 4 p.m. If you have any questions, e-mail rharnoff@aol.com.

AFS SCHOLARSHIPS: Any students interested in the AFS High School Scholarship Program must submit a resume of leadership/community service activities to Ms. Queen by Friday, Nov. 18. More than \$250,000 in scholarships to study abroad will be awarded to high

school students through AFS Awards for Excellence, a national scholarship program that recognizes students who best demonstrate leadership, community service and strong academic achievement. ECHS has had several winners in past years. In order to be eligible for consideration, the high school student must be nominated by his or her high school teacher, guidance counselor, honor society adviser, or principal, and must exhibit leadership qualities, service to community, and have at least a 3.5 GPA, based on a 4.0 scale. High schools of 1,000 students or fewer may nominate as many as five students. Schools of more than 1,000 students may nominate as many as 10 students.

CRAB FEED: The Albany/El Cerrito Ex-

Democracy in action

AS ANDY BROWN ponders the ballot of the California special election, his son William, 5, takes a gulp of water while Harrison, 7, explores the polling place in El Cerrito on Tuesday. In addition to the slate of statewide propositions, El Cerrito voters cast ballots on whether to approve Measure J, a \$400 million construction bond for West Contra Costa schools.

Madera Elementary

PTA MEETING: The next PTA meeting is Monday at 7:15 p.m. in the Community Room (downstairs in the new wing). All parents are invited and welcome to attend. Snacks and coffee will be provided.

—Craig Lazzaretti

School notes may be e-mailed to journal@cctimes.com

ALBANY SCHOOL NOTES

Albany High School

HOMEWORK HELP: Need help with your homework? Come by the library after 7th period every Monday for free peer tutoring. Friendly and knowledgeable trained student tutors will be there in force waiting to help you.

MADRIGAL CONCERT: The Albany High School Choral Department will present the seventh annual Madrigal Delights concert in the high school multipurpose room tonight and Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. This event is the major fund-raiser for the Choral Music Department. Tickets are \$15 for adults, and \$10 for seniors, children and students. Tickets may be purchased from any Advanced Choral, Concert Choir or American Musical Theater student. For more information, contact Jonathan Ulrich at 510-558-2500, Ext. 2575 or JUlinch@albany.k12.ca.us.

PARENTS COMMITTEE: On Thursday, the Parent Ed Committee presents two events. At 6 p.m. in Room 101, Eve Cowen will showcase the Future Leaders Institute. At 7 p.m. in the library, Ms. Cowen will present a program titled "Kids and Community — Empowering Kids to Make a Difference."

Albany Middle School

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE: Conferences are scheduled for Nov. 17-22. On those days the school will be on a special conference schedule, and students will be dismissed at 1:50. These dates are reserved just for students who are having difficulty in their classes. Counselors Mr. Etchegorry and Ms. Marie will be scheduling conferences for seventh and eighth grade students, and sixth grade teachers will be scheduling conferences for their students.

PTA MEMBERSHIP: As of last week, 211 families have joined the AMS PTA, out of approximately 750 families in AMS. If you have not had a chance to join the middle school PTA, it is never too late. Please turn in all PTA forms to the school office.

BOOK FAIR: The Book Fair was a great success, with profits exceeding the previous two years. The AMS library staff is very grateful to Book Fair Chair Debra Dove Masterson for her hard work and dedication. Thanks also are extended to the parents and students who purchased items, to the 38 families/students that donated books, and to Richard Trout, who grew the pumpkins for the Pumpkin Raffles, raising \$140, which the PTA generously passed on to the library.

Cornell Elementary

CONFERENCES: During parent-teacher conferences through Nov. 22, please remind your child to either walk straight home immediately after dismissal or wait for pickup at the picnic tables or the benches. During parent-teacher conferences, all students start and end school at the same time, creating the potential for unusual traffic congestion. Please arrive a few minutes early to obtain a legal parking space and avoid the traffic congestion, walk/bike ride to school, carpool, park on Solano Avenue, and use the crosswalk. Please do not double park, stop in traffic, make U-turns, or call your child across the street.

CONFLICT TRAINING: The school has completed the training of its student conflict managers and have the managers on the playground.

PTA FUNDING: PTA funding has produced a new blue 20-foot storage container, which will provide storage space for PE equipment that is now in the handball container.

VOLUNTEERS: When you come to volunteer or observe at school, please come into the office to register and get a badge. This is for our students' safety. Tuesdays are the only days set up for observation.

TREE REMOVAL: Thanks to the PTA, the six dying trees in the concrete block planters in the courtyard (picnic table area) were scheduled to be completely removed and replaced with healthy trees. Professional arborists have recommended replacement of these trees for several years. This is a significant project by the PTA. Donations to support this effort are welcome.

HOLIDAY ARTS FESTIVAL: Information is coming soon about our annual holiday arts festival, coming on Dec. 10.

Marin Elementary

MEETING CANCELED: The PTA meeting scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 17 has been canceled.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE: Parent-teacher conferences are under way until Nov. 23. During the conference period, all students arrive at 8:30 and are dismissed at 1:45 for grades 1-3 and 1:40 for grades 4-5. The kindergarten schedule remains the same. The regular schedule returns the Monday after Thanksgiving.

CODY'S BENEFIT: Cody's School Benefit Daze is this weekend, through Monday. Turn your receipts in to the school office, and the school receives a rebate of 15 percent. Cody's stores are at 2454 Telegraph and

1730 Fourth St. in Berkeley and at 2 Stockton St., a new store in San Francisco.

STREET SWEEPING: Street sweeping is coming on Wednesday from noon to 4 p.m. During the sweeping period, no parking is allowed in front of Marin on Santa Fe, the east side of Curtis St., and the north side of Marin Ave. For street sweeping on the following Wednesday, Nov. 23, there is no parking on the west side of Santa Fe Ave., the west side of Curtis St., or next to the school on Marin Ave.

PICTURE MAKE-UPS: Picture make-up day is Wednesday, Nov. 30, for students who were absent for the first photo session or are newly arrived. Portraits taken on Oct. 19 will be sent home before Nov. 30.

DONATIONS: The school could use donations of Macintosh, iMac, or G3 generation computers. It continues to accept in the office UNICEF boxes; PTA dues; used inkjet and laser printer cartridges; SCRIP orders; lunch money envelopes; General Mills boxtops; Music Fund, Albany Education Fund, and SchoolCARE donations; and canned goods for the Salvation Army. And please check the office storage bench for lost and found items.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY: Thanks to dedicated parent volunteers and office staff, this year's school directory was delivered on time. A correction sheet is available in the office, and the deadline for corrections is Nov. 15. To sign up for the directory committee for next year, contact Judy Dinglasan or Sofie Chuang via the directory mail box in the office.

Ocean View Elementary

PTA MEETING: The next PTA meeting is Monday at 7 p.m., in the library.

Education funders

CONCERT FUND-RAISER: On Sunday at 4 p.m., the AHS Athletic Boosters will hold a fund-raiser/concert featuring the Berkeley Saxophone Quartet in the AHS Little Theatre. Tickets are \$10 adults, \$5 seniors, students and children, and are available through the JV and varsity football players or at the door the day of the concert. Proceeds benefit the AHS football program. The program will include music by the Beatles, Miller, Mingus, Parker, Bach, Debussy, Joplin, and others. Contact web.berkeley.saxophonequartet.com or 510-526-4894 for information.

NOCHE TROPICAL: Noche Tropical, SchoolCARE's premier annual fund-raising event held last Saturday, seeded another year of efforts to maintain and improve what the schools can offer, with donations for the evening totaling \$34,000. SchoolCARE will continue to work throughout the year, to meet or exceed the \$300,000 raised for the schools this year. The next SchoolCARE board meeting is Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. For information on the location, contact 510-524-3786 or AlbanySchoolCARE@aol.com.

—Bob Menzinger

School notes may be e-mailed to journal@cctimes.com

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CELEBRATE THE SEASON

Watch for our Hills Holiday Tab publishing November 25th and December 9th.

Celebrate and shop in your neighborhood!

Celebrating 30 years of excellent education in Oakland

Academic Excellence
Diversity
Spirituality
Service Learning

For information, come to an **OPEN HOUSE**
Programs begin at 2:00 pm
Grades K-5: Sunday, Nov. 13
Grades 6-8: Sunday, Nov. 20

Call 510-285-9617 for a tour
116 Montecito Ave., Oakland
www.spes.org

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Pam Middings, 1516 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail them to pnmiddings@cctimes.com or fax them to 510-748-1680. Call 510-748-1683 if you have questions.

Coming Up

Music

■ **Jazzschool**, 2087 Addison St., Berkeley, presents: Jazzschool Jam Sessions Sundays 7:30-10 p.m. Open-mic session where instrumentalists and vocalists are welcome to sit in. Free. Coming up: **Nov. 11**, 8 p.m., Dahveed Behrooz. **Nov. 11**, 8 p.m., Dick Whittington, Andrew Speight. **Nov. 13**, 4:30 p.m., Rhonda Benin — Soulful Strut. **Nov. 18**, 8 p.m., Akira Tana Trio. **Nov. 19**, 8 p.m., Madeline Eastman. Details: 510-845-5373.

■ **Katrina Relief Benefit** — **Nov. 11**, 7-10 p.m., Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists' Hall, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. Country Joe McDonald & Friends: Annie & the Vets, Hall Hammer, Laraine Crocker, Max Ventura, David Brooks, The Beadles, The Rude Mechanicals, Nicole Milner, Phoebe ANNE sorgen, Edie Harshorne. Tickets: \$25.

■ **Yousouf N'Dour & The Egyptian Orchestra** — **Nov. 11**, 8 p.m., UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. Tickets: \$30-\$50; 510-642-9988.

■ **Mini Concert Series** — 8 p.m. at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Blvd., Kensington. Features: **Nov. 11** David Glass, Pianist performing Liszt's Transcription of Beethoven's Sixth Symphony; **Dec. 9** Distant Oaks, a Celtic music ensemble. Tickets: \$15 each, \$40 for all four shows; call 510-525-9146 or 510-843-7745.

■ **Freight & Salvage Coffee House**, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley, presents at 8 p.m.: **Nov. 11**, Duck Baker & Jamie Findlay. \$17.50-\$18.50. — **Nov. 12**, Richard Greene & the Brothers Barton. \$19.50-\$20.50. — **Nov. 13**, Gordon Bok. \$19.50-\$20.50. — **Nov. 15**, open mic. \$5.50. — **Nov. 16**, McKassons & Laura Cortese. \$17.50-\$18.50. — **Nov. 17**, Jeffrey Foucault. \$17.50-\$18.50. Details: www.freightandsalvage.org or 510-548-1761.

■ **Borodin Quartet** — **Nov. 12**, 8 p.m., First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. Mikosvsky, Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky. Tickets: \$42; 510-642-9988.

■ **Jonathan Lemalu** — **Nov. 13**, 3 p.m., UC Berkeley's Hertz Hall. New Zealand-born bass-baritone returns. Tickets: \$42; 510-642-9988.

■ **Nor-Cal Theatre Opera Society** — **Nov. 13**, 2:30 p.m., Berkeley Community Center, 1930 Alston Way. Tom Hazleton plays in Sunday afternoon Pops concert. Tickets: \$10-\$12; call 510-632-9177.

■ **Berkeley Saxophone Quartet** concert — Albany High School Athletic Boosters fund-raiser. **Nov. 13**, 4 p.m., ALS Little Theatre, 603 Key Route Blvd. Tickets: \$5-\$10. Proceeds benefit AHS Cougar football teams; includes works of Beatles, Bach, Debussy, Monk, Parker. Details: 510-526-4894 or www.berkeleysaxophonequartet.com.

■ **A conversation with Joseph Kerman** — **Nov. 14**, 5:30-7 p.m., University Press Books/Berkeley, 2430 Bancroft Way. "The Art of the Fugue: Bach Fugues for Keyboard, 1715-



BERKELEY ART CENTER

LISA KOKIN'S "WHAT I DIDN'T LEARN IN HEBREW SCHOOL" is on exhibit in "Justice Matters: Artists Consider Palestine." The show features 14 Palestinian and American artists and continues through Dec. 17 at the Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St., Berkeley. For more information, call 510-644-6893 or visit berkeleyartcenter.org.

1750." The author will be interviewed by music editor Mary Francis. Audience participation encouraged, refreshments served.

■ **Tania Libertad** — **Nov. 17**, 8 p.m., UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. Mexico's boleros & rancheros. Afro-Peruvian songs performed. Tickets: \$20-\$32; 510-642-9988.

■ **Ensemble Kaboul** — with special guest Ustad Farida Mahwash. **Nov. 18**, 8 p.m., UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. Traditional Afghan music. Tickets: \$22-\$40; 510-642-9988.

■ **Mazuela Wind Quintet** — **Nov. 18**, 8 p.m., Giorgi Gallery, 2911 Claremont Ave., Berkeley. Features works of Ibert, Cowell, Fine, Danzi. Cost: \$12-\$15. Details: 510-848-1228 or www.giorgigallery.com.

■ **Berkeley Broadway Singers concert** — "Do You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans?" Songs of the Heart. **Nov. 19**, 8 p.m., St. Ambrose Church, 1145 Gilman St., Berkeley. Free. Donations appreciated; proceeds benefit MusiCares Hurricane Relief Fund. Details: 510-848-5732 or www.berkeleybroadwaysingers.org.

■ **Dana Lyons Concert & Silent Auction** — **Nov. 20**, 6-10 p.m., Unitarian Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. Gourmet refreshments, live music. Auction items include camping gear, books, dinners, hot springs retreats, massage, yoga classes, hemp clothing, original art, movies and pizza, more. Proceeds benefit Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters. Details: 510-548-3113 or www.HeadwatersPreserve.org.

■ **Contra Costa Chorale** — with New Millennium Strings in concert. **Nov. 20**, 7 p.m., Unitarian-Universalist Church of Berkeley, One Lawson Road, Kensington. Features works of Handel, Purcell, Warlock. Cost: \$10-\$15. Details: 510-524-1861 or www.cccchorale.org.

■ **Andy Cohen in Concert** — **Nov. 19**, 7:30 p.m., Grace North Church, 2138 Cedar St., Berkeley. An Evening of Acoustic Blues and Roots Music. Tickets: \$10. Details: Shelby 510-237-1960 or Kate 510-524-4954.

■ **Deborah Voigt** — **Nov. 20**, 3 p.m., UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. Soprano opera singing. Tickets: \$36-\$68; 510-642-9988.

■ **MusicSources Concert** — **Nov.**

20, 5 p.m., 1000 The Alameda, Berkeley. Local fortepianist John Khouri performs Beethoven's Sonata No. 4 in Eb major Op. 7, 15 Variations & Fugue Op. 35 'Eroica'. Reception follows. Cost: \$15-\$18. Details: 510-528-1685.

■ **Organ Music at St. John's** — **Nov. 20**, 4 p.m., St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. Paul Tegels & Dana Robinson plays works by Bach, Beethoven, Mozart. Admission: \$15 donation, \$5 students. Details: 510-845-8630; www.stjohns-presbychurch.net/organ.htm.

Outdoors

■ **Native Herd Nursery** — **Nov. 11-12**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., 101 Golf Course Drive, Tilden Park, Berkeley. Special week of extended hours for planting season; many native plants available. Proceeds benefit East Bay Chapter, California Native Plant Society. Details: www.ebcnp.org.

■ **Bayshore Hike** — **Nov. 12**, 3:30 p.m., El Cerrito. Directions: turn off Hwy 80 at Central Ave./El Cerrito. Go west, over next overpass. First stop sign is Rydin. Turn right to end. Meet at parking lot. Two-hour walk along the Bay, on paved trail, handicapped accessible, at Pt. Isabel. Stop for a drink at 'Salutes' at Marina Bay, return for an optional Chinese dinner at Pacific East Mall. Rain cancels. Details: Vera 510-234-8949.

See CALENDAR, Page A11

Mira Vista

FROM PAGE A1

"That's why I joined. Most country clubs are, frankly, elitist — mostly rich, white people. But at Mira Vista you can see all kinds of people — Asians, blacks, Hispanics — all having a great time playing golf. I feel very much at home socially."

In 1990 Mira Vista says it became the first club in the state to admit same-sex domestic partners as members.

"Now other clubs are starting to follow Mira Vista's lead, and we're very proud of that," said club President Gary Tsukamoto of Pinole.

Mira Vista's initiation fee is \$20,000, compared with \$50,000 to \$75,000 at other country clubs in the Bay Area, according to General Manager Robert Sparks. But he thinks the real reason for its popularity among diverse groups is its welcoming atmosphere.

Among Mira Vista's members, past and present: Nobel laureate Luis Alvarez, basketball great Bill Russell, former Raider Clem Daniels and baseball Hall-of-Famer Joe Morgan.

Mira Vista was founded in 1920 when Lester Hink, owner of Hink & Sons department store, bought 160 acres on Rancho San Pablo at the top of Cutting Boulevard. He turned around and sold the land at a profit to a group of businessmen friends who wanted to form a golf club.

Despite its El Cerrito location, the club was first called the Berkeley Country Club. The clubhouse was designed by noted architect Walter Ratcliffe, who styled it after an Old English Manor house. The timbers in the ballroom were put in place by Elmer Freethy, owner of El Cerrito Mill & Lumber. The name was changed to Mira Vista in 1934.

The course itself was built by the great Scottish golf course designer, William "Willie" Watson, who also designed the Olympic Club and the Mt. Diablo Country Club.

"In the early years, caddies earned 25 cents a round, which were usually amplified by a tip and a sandwich or drink," said Al Barkow, editor-at-large for Golf Illustrated magazine, who is writing a history of Mira Vista. "Caddies were allowed to play the course on Mondays, and there was an annual caddie championship and Christmas

party for the caddies. Lester Hink contributed shirts and ties that were given as gifts or prizes."

In 1929 the club hosted the first — and last — Berkeley Open, attracting pros Tommy Armour (aka "The Silver Scott"), trick-shot artist Joe Kirkwood, "Wild Bill" Melhorn, Lawson Little and "Wiffy" Cox.

"Walter Hagen said he'd play, but only if he received an \$800 appearance fee," said Barkow. "That was not forthcoming, so he sat it out. However, he did play an exhibition match at Mira Vista prior to the tournament with Nibs Price, the UC Berkeley football and basketball coach."

The tournament drew 10,000 spectators but still lost money, with expenses outpacing income by \$500.

"The shortfall was covered by Alameda County, which wrote it off as a promotional expense by way of promoting the Bay Area as a place to live," said Barkow.

During the Depression years of the 1930s, the club fell on hard times. Three years ago, former El Cerrito Mayor Marge Collins recalled the unlikely solution: slot machines.

"El Cerrito was a wide-open town then," she said. "They put five or six slots along the west wall of the grill room in the clubhouse and a couple more in the pro shop."

The slots raked in enough cash to keep the club afloat.

"And even when they paid off," said Collins, "many winners would turn around and buy drinks for the house, so the money stayed in the club. Those who hit the jackpot in the pro shop were paid off in golf balls."

During World War II, Mira Vista played host to the Oakland Open, featuring Sam Snead, Byron Nelson and Lawson Little battling for first prize: \$7,500 in war bonds.

The meat rationing during the war created major problems for the dining room, which were finally solved when General Manager Frank "Boy Wonder" McHugh found a chicken farmer in Walnut Creek who offered his entire flock. But he had one condition: McHugh had to pick them up.

McHugh complied, driving out every day to pick up a few birds, then driving them back to the club, where he killed and dressed them just before dinner.

"The chicken has never been so fresh since," quipped Collins. In 1951 Mira Vista hosted a women's pro-am. In a battle of

future Hall-of-Famers, Louie Suggs beat Patty money: a less-than-

\$750. In 1960 the club caddies, citing "rowdy behavior," indifference in the performance of their

The caddies were golf carts, although 70s and 80s, dis-

The 1960s saw a wooden golf cart, which was way to tie up a ball

a small handbag box at the side, form a mound on ball was propped"

"But the dentists' club complained. The caddies' behavior was rough, which made more difficult. So were reinstated."

In recent years, undergone a major old pro shop — a era Quonset hut — hauled up the hill Island Naval Station, replaced by a Tudor

ture that blends sea Ratcliffe's clubhouse

like Watson's original than it has for years have been extended bunkers, which were eliminated during '50s to make play

But appearances ing. Underneath is a state-of-the-art drainage system and fairways.

Saturday's annual will celebrate 50 guests of honor: who have been longer than 20 years assistant golf pro who has been at Mira 33 years; members or older; and the presidents.

One past president be there — the latter, who was president But his son, grandson grandchildren will him.

Olivero's motto was "Avanti!" — "Always forward." After his death, Mira Vista it as the club's official

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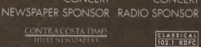


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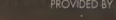
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Michael Morgan

PAGE A10

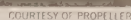
Science and Religion -- Nov. 13,
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■ **Living the Questions** — Nov. 17; 6:30-9 p.m.; Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Potluck dinner, video, and discussion of an "unapologetically liberal" faith.

Learning

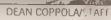
■ Medicare Part D/Prescription Drug

■ **Science lecture** — Nov. 14, 5 p.m., Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley. "The Search for Dark Energy in the Accelerating Universe" by Professor Saul Perlmutter, professor of Physics, UC Berkeley & senior scientist, Berkeley Lab. Details: 510-486-7292



THE ALL-MALE PROPELLER COMPANY from Great Britain makes its Bay Area debut in director Edward Hall's production of Shakespeare's "The Winter's Tale" at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. Show times are 8 p.m. today, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, and 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$65. For more information, visit calperfs.berkeley.edu or call 510-642-9988.

records obtained by the order the California Public Act. Invoices show the dis-



Questions about Globe's work have prompted further testing, construction delays and rendered useless architectural designs for four

At El Cerrito High, architects moved all the buildings because of newly discovered hazards, said WLC senior architect Leo Ray-

slow down the damages suit, Velez said, though the district would cooperate should the District Attorney's office choose to pursue

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Measure J

FROM PAGE A1

"Having a new building, it's like starting anew, in the mind of the administrators, the students," Sison said.

The victory signaled a coup for the 32,000-student district, which endured several setbacks to construction in the past year. The program is struggling with cost overruns, delays and a lawsuit alleging fraud and negligence on the part of an engineer hired to evaluate seismic and geological hazards.

"We have to get better. We have to get more efficient," said board member Charles Ramsey. "But at the same time, the community has confidence. The kids deserve these schools."

Measure J narrowly beat the 55 percent approval threshold, winning 56.6 percent of 43,814 votes cast, according to final results from the Contra Costa County Election Department.

Property owners will pay an annual average of \$55.50 per \$100,000 of assessed property value over the life of the 30-year bonds, according to the county.

The first fiscal year the bonds are sold, property owners can expect to pay \$31.10 per \$100,000 of assessed property value. The maximum rate tops out at \$60 per \$100,000, county estimates show.

Completely renovating all the district's 56 older facilities would cost \$1.5 billion. Reaching that goal would likely require at least one more trip to the polls.

The Measure J funds are ex-

pected to pay for building De Anza and Kennedy high schools in Richmond and Pinole Valley High in Pinole.

Other campuses slated for renovation include Castro, Coronado, Dover, Fairmont, Ford, Grant, Highland, King, Lake, Nyström, Ohlone, Valley View and Wilson elementary schools.

The money could also be used to buy land for new campuses, most likely a middle school in Hercules. The district and the city remain in talks over a 12-acre property, once home to the city's sewage treatment plant, a dynamite factory and a fertilizer company.

The district can also use collections to finish projects left undone under other bonds.

So far, the district has renovated or rebuilt 17 elementary schools and one middle school

using \$490 million from three school construction bonds.

Voters approved a \$40 million measure in 1998. Two years later, they passed a \$150 million bond. Five more campus renovations, including the \$96 million El Cerrito High School project, are in the works using a \$300 million bond passed in 2002.

"We certainly are enjoying the benefits of previous bond measures," said Cathy Garza, mother of a kindergartner at the newly renovated Kensington Elementary School.

"All kids in the district deserve the same," Garza said. "With the passage of this bond, hopefully we're making strides in that direction."

Shirley Dang covers education. Reach her at 510-262-2798 or sdang@cctimes.com.

Measure A

FROM PAGE A1

"It will take a few days to confirm," Walden said Wednesday, "but I'm pretty sure we have this one."

If approved, the measure would raise \$2 million annually for the district for seven years. It would tax homeowners \$250 per year and commercial property owners 5 cents per square foot, or \$250, whichever is higher.

The money would go toward teachers' salaries and benefits and other school district programs.

Seniors and low-income homeowners would be exempt, and low-income renters could apply for a rebate.

This would be the district's third parcel tax. If it passes, homeowners will pay a total of \$508 annually in parcel taxes.

In an Oct. 31 letter sent to Albany homes, school district Superintendent Willie Wong said the state's inadequate funding of the district has further divided community "stakeholders" into two camps: Those who support cost-of-living raises and benefits for teachers and staff to keep highly qualified employees; and those who support extra services and programs for students.

"Both of those things are important, very important," Wong said, following Tuesday's vote. "But with a limited budget, you have to start providing some priorities or agree that something might have to give for something else."

According to a recent two-year contract with the Albany Teachers Association, some of the tax money will be used to pay for salaries. If the measure fails, the agreement states, the district is committed to reducing other costs to provide for the salary increases.

Resident Clay Larson, a close observer of the school district, said he believed that agreement "hamstrings" the board.

"In any labor-management negotiation, there has to be a balancing of interests," Larson said. "I'm not sure that the current board is capable of providing this."

He said that feeling may have been shared by others, accounting for the relatively low approval of Measure A, compared with the two prior school district parcel

taxes. However, Albany Mayor Loni Hancock, who also supported the measure, said the district "has a great support for the district."

"Clearly, the community supports the measure and the students," Berkeley said, "that was laid out in the measure. I think it's a sound show of support for a full-time day care program, smaller than the grades 4-12, preschool health counseling and high school students learning English as a second language, and support for extra-curricular activities."

Albany taxpayers pay less than homeowners, who pay \$1,500 and Berkeley taxpayers \$818, Walden said.

If the "yes" vote than prior years, because the campaign was different. It focused on community issues, a typical school district she said.

"We gave each parent a chance to make a decision themselves, and they could support the measure, or they could support the appeal, you draw out the bit more, but everybody to learn."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or e-mail alopez1@cctimes.com.

City Hall

FROM PAGE A2

design subcommittee consisting of two members each of the City Council and the design review board to help craft a schematic design for the project.

The subcommittee held a meeting Tuesday, and the City Council and design board also met to discuss the project Monday night.

After visiting other city halls in Contra Costa County, Mayor Sandi Potter said what she saw over and over again were city departments — such as finance or building departments — that were

the focal points of the building and easy for the public to access.

The council is scheduled to adopt a schematic design in January, following one more joint meeting with the design review board and one more subcommittee meeting.

"This is the first time everyone had gotten to see the direction of the design and layout of the floor plan," said Potter, of the Monday meeting. "It was pretty constructive, and the process is moving forward pretty much on schedule."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or e-mail alopez1@cctimes.com.



AN ARTIST'S RENDERING shows the proposed El Cerrito City Hall.

Condos

FROM PAGE A1

Supporters of the project say it will provide needed housing near public transit. It will also restore a portion of Cerrito Creek.

"I do support transit-oriented development, but appropriate," Vice Mayor Allan Maris said. "A smaller building could be acceptable."

El Cerrito Mayor Sandi Potter said she believed the planning commission gave a thorough review of the project and the environmental report.

"It's not that unusual to have large development projects appealed," she said.

The Albany council agreed to initiate legal action if the appeal

to the El Cerrito City Council fails, and to continue to look into closing the four streets that lead to and from Albany to the south end of the shopping center.

"If we need to file a lawsuit, by all means, please do," Javandel said.

The Albany school district is joining the city in the appeal, said School District Superintendent Willie Wong.

"Our major concern is with the traffic," Wong said. "The effects additional traffic will have on student pedestrians on public streets."

Albany Mayor Robert Good speculated that El Cerrito may file a lawsuit over the closing of the streets. Following the meeting, Potter said she hoped it wouldn't come to that.

"I would prefer to be able to approach these development issues in a way that doesn't involve litigation," Potter said. "I think as neighbors we need to sit at a table and have a dialogue before it escalates to that level."

Potter expected the project to come before the council Dec. 12.

City Councilman Robert Lieber said the city was looking at closing the streets in response to the plaza's recent revitalization and not necessarily because of the development. He said it was highly unusual for shopping centers to have access from residential streets.

"They have to understand it's not a quid pro quo thing, where they did something and we're reacting," Lieber said. "We're looking at what's best for Albany."

Eric Zell, a local political consultant and the spokesman for developer Carl Fortney, said Fortney's attorney has questioned whether the street closures are legal.

He also scoffed at claims that the environmental document was inadequate.

"Obviously we're pleased with the planning commission decision and we're prepared to bring our arguments and supporters to the City Council meeting on appeal," Zell said. "And I feel confident the city is going to continue to support a good-quality transit-oriented development near the Plaza BART station."

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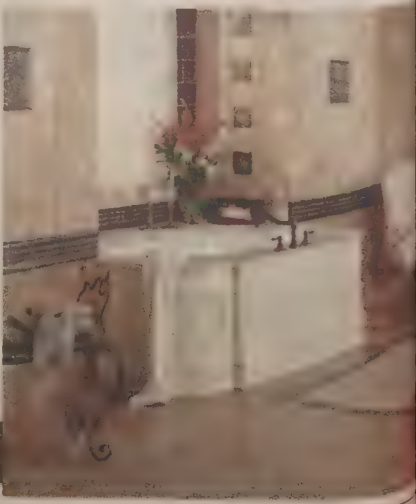


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Real Estate

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October 11, 2005

Advertising supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclair, The Piedmont

What to consider when buying a home elsewhere

to get local information on a faraway real estate market

By Mary Weiss
Baby Boomers are buying homes at a record pace. In 2004, 377,000 second homes were sold, up from 350,000 in 2003. According to the National Association of Realtors, buying a second home for retirement, vacation or investment is a popular choice.

Finding out about a local real estate market requires a little sleuthing, which is best done in advance. Emotions can run high when you find a home to buy. Don't wait until you're in the midst of a heated negotiation to discover what you need to know in order to make a prudent decision.

Realtor.com, the largest depository of listings nationally, is an excellent tool. You can search for properties by ZIP code, which narrows your search considerably. Realtor.com also offers information on market conditions. This information is provided by real estate agents who work in the local area.

The shortfall is that this information can be spotty. When no local agents report for an area, Realtor.com displays a statewide or national market activity report. This broader market data is insufficient. You need to know what's happening at the local level, which can vary significantly from one place to the next.

Finding out about a local real estate market requires a little sleuthing, which is best done in advance. Emotions can run high when you find a home to buy. Don't wait until you're in the midst of a heated negotiation to discover what you need to know in order to make a prudent decision.

A good way to start learning about an area is to subscribe to the local newspaper. You may be able to find the local paper online.



DIAN HYMER
House Hunting

Another way to find out more about real estate in an area is to use a search engine to search the Internet for home buying information in a certain area. For example, search for: home buying in Palm Springs, Calif. Scroll through the search results until you find a site that looks like it provides educational information, not just a sales pitch.

Even though real estate agents' personal Web sites are designed to sell their listings and capture your business, they can be used to collect information about an area. Many agent sites include general consumer information or links to useful information.

There is no obligation to work with an agent that you find on the Internet. However, an agent who has invested the time, money and effort to design an informative site may be one you'd like to interview. Be aware that information on the Internet is not regulated, so double check all pertinent information for accuracy.

Real Estate Spotlight:

Gracious Upper Rockridge home has a secret



THE THREE-BEDROOM, TWO AND ONE-HALF BATH mid-century home at 6039 Ocean View Drive in Rockridge has a gracious entry and a lush "secret garden" with mature landscaping. The setting is stylish and serene, as the living room with its large windows and walls of glass looks out to the private front garden. From the living room there is a deck with views across the valley and a peek of the Bay which creates a great entertaining space. The upper level which also includes the family room, kitchen, dining area and one bedroom with a full bath, is spacious and airy. Downstairs, is the second bedroom with its own entrance and the master suite. The tailored master suite has a private deck, a built-in television room, walk-in closet, and steam shower. The interior of this lovely home has just been painted, the floors refinished and new carpet installed. This property is just minutes away from BART, College Avenue, San Francisco freeways and shopping.

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THE CLOSING: Interest rates vary from state to state and so do closing fees. It pays to use a good

local mortgage broker or lender who knows the ins and outs in the particular area.

Dian Hymer is a nationally syndicated columnist and author of "House Hunting, The Take-Along Workbook for Home Buyers." She can be reached at 510-339-477 or at Dian@Dianhymer.com.

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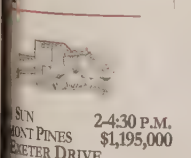


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www.MontclairBetterHomes.com



YOU'RE INVITED: Gallagher & Lindsey Realtors, from left to right, Justine Francis, Anne DeBardleben, Roberta Rossi-Lopez and John Selbach join senior vice president Michael Studebaker, far right, in inviting you to join them Sunday for the "Alameda Open Home Trolley Tour."

All aboard: 'Very Important Buyers'

■ Gallagher and Lindsey hosts its first-ever "Alameda Open Home Trolley Tour"

GALLAGHER & LINDSEY

Trying to find a home in Alameda? Tired of having to drive around looking for open houses? How about seeing the Island City's best while riding in an authentic San Francisco trolley? The event begins with a complimentary lunch at noon Sunday, at Gallagher and Lindsey's 2424 Central Ave. office, where loan officers from Countrywide Home Loans will be on hand to show you which of the tour's featured homes may meet your budget. Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc. invites you to then hop aboard its first-ever "Alameda Open Home Trolley Tour," at 1:30 p.m. Realtors from Alameda's leading real estate company will take you on a three-hour trolley tour of all the open houses scheduled on the island that day. The tour will also give prospective home buyers the chance to see some of Alameda's most beautiful areas, including the historic Gold Coast, the Farnside District and Harbor Bay.

The authentic trolley tour begins at 1:30 p.m., with realtors Justine Francis, Anne DeBardleben, Joe LoParo, Ruth Masonek, Meredith DiVita and Roberta Rossi-Lopez as your guides.

Space on the tour is limited, so be sure to call 510-521-8181 to reserve your spot and inquire how you can become one of Gallagher & Lindsey's Very Important Buyers (V.I.B.).



Snow family delivers a white Christmas

BY DON AND DAVE RUNYAN

U-BILD

Don't depend on the weather to deliver a white Christmas this year. This happy snow family — Mr. and Mrs. Snowman, the kids and the family dog — is a great way to transform your yard into a winter wonderland, no matter what the weatherman says. Plus, they're guaranteed not to melt when the sun comes out.

The snow family can be put together in a single weekend, and they're almost easier to make than the real thing. To build, just glue the figures onto exterior plywood with waterproof glue and cut them out. Next, sand all the edges and paint the edges and backs. To finish, attach stakes or stands and set them up. No special skills or tools are required, and no painting is necessary.

Designed to stand up to the elements, each full-color figure is printed on weather-resistant poster paper in waterproof inks. The finished figures should last several seasons untreated, but we recommend a coat or two of polyurethane weather sealer for a longer life.

Mr. Snowman stands about five feet tall. Mrs. Snowman is about four and a half feet tall and the snow kids are both about two feet tall.

The Snow Family Display, No. C6, is \$34.95 and includes posters for the five figures plus complete step-by-step instructions (the "Merry Christmas" sign and candy cane posters are available separately). A catalog picturing hundreds of do-it-yourself projects is \$2, and a free holiday brochure is available on request; include \$3 for postage and handling (except catalog-only orders) and allow about two weeks for delivery.

To order by mail, clip this article and send it with a check or money order to U-Bild Features, c/o Hills Newspapers, P.O. Box 2383, Van Nuys, CA 91409. To order by credit card, call 1-800-828-2453. Visit U-Bild on the Web at u-bild.com.

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Debra J. Dryden, CRS
Broker Associate
510.339.0400/208
dryden@grubbco.com

28 Years of
Experience with Integrity

Alternative investments may help meet your portfolio's needs

Investing does not just have to be about stocks and bonds. There are many investments that may be a good fit for your portfolio.

While some alternative investments can enhance a portfolio, they should probably be a modest percentage of your overall financial plan.

Examples of alternative investments include real estate, managed futures, private equity, along with many others. Because the pattern of returns in these investment categories typically do not correlate closely with those of stocks and bonds, their presence in a portfolio can complement returns, while potentially reducing the portfolio's overall ups and downs.

But before you start investing in anything new, you need to reassess your portfolio, asset allocation and risk tolerance. If you are not sure how your portfolio shapes up, find out.

Take the time to review your portfolio with your financial consultant to discover the nature of your current investments and how well they are working together.

Working with your financial consultant to assess your risk tolerance may be the most important step. Many investors who considered themselves aggressive growth investors just a few years ago are now learning they do not have the same tolerance for taking risks.

This could ultimately determine how you allocate your assets in order to reach your financial goals.

As you review your holdings and financial goals, you may be able to improve your diversification just by broadening your selection beyond the traditional range of investments. Let us take a look at some of these:

Managed futures. A futures contract is an exchange-traded contract to buy or sell a fixed amount of some commodity for future delivery on a certain date.

The commodity could be cattle, corn, coffee or some other physical commodity; or it could be a financial commodity, such as a currency. Few investors have the time or the experience to manage a diversified futures account on their own so, as an alternative, investors can buy managed futures funds.

Commodity Trading Advisors trade futures in dozens of different markets in an attempt to generate returns that are not correlated with more traditional markets.

Keep in mind there are significant risks associated with managed futures and they are not suitable for all investors. You could lose all or a substantial amount of your investment.

Risk of loss is due to the speculative and leveraged aspects of trading, fluctuating prices and the unpredictability of market direction. Exchange rules limiting price fluctuations and setting speculative position limits may also increase risk.

Master limited partnerships (MLPs). An MLP is a publicly traded partnership, oriented towards the energy sector, which trades like a stock on a securities exchange. Individual investors buy ownership interests, or units, in the partnership through a stock exchange similar to purchasing shares of a stock in a company. MLPs are a particularly attractive investment because of their high dividend yields and ability to grow.

As always, these investments are not suitable for all investors as you could lose all or a substantial amount of your investment. Invest-

Can home owner sue for emotional distress?

BY ROBERT J. BRUSS

MAN NEWS FEATURES

In 1987, Barbara and George Dawson purchased a home, and got a home loan. In 1996, the mortgage was in default. The lender scheduled a foreclosure sale. But just before that sale, the Dawsons filed Chapter 7 bankruptcy.

The lender claimed it did not receive notice of the bankruptcy filing so it proceeded with the foreclosure sale. When no bidders showed up at the auction, the lender took title to the home.

The lender began eviction proceedings against the Dawsons, who then filed Chapter 13 bankruptcy reorganization. The lender filed a proof of claim as to the mortgage debt still owed.

But the Dawsons claimed emotional distress damages for the lender's violation of the bankruptcy automatic stay in their Chapter 7 bankruptcy.

If you were the bankruptcy judge would you rule the Dawsons are entitled to emotional distress damages when the lender violated the bankruptcy automatic stay in 1996?

The judge said no.

Because the lender was not notified of the Dawsons' bankruptcy filing in 1996, it acted reasonably in conducting the foreclosure sale and in proceeding with eviction, the judge explained.

However, upon being informed of Dawsons' bankruptcy filing, the lender promptly terminated its eviction action, the judge reported. Damages for emotional distress for violation of the automatic stay are available under federal law, the judge continued, but the circumstances must be "egregious" for damages to be awarded to the debtor.

Under the circumstances, the judge ruled that the lender's violation of automatic stay was innocent and not egregious and awarded no emotional damages.

Some expert home decorating

BY SOPHIE AZOUAOU
CORRESPONDENT

Decorating your home without the help of a professional can be overwhelming.

Three important things to consider when you start the project:

- Wall coverings: paint, wallpaper and borders
- Window coverings: drapes, shades, shutters
- Floor coverings: carpet, tiles, wood floors and linoleum

Ask yourself:

- If the walls need to be repainted, if the wallpaper needs to be removed or if the walls need to be textured
- If the drapes, the blinds are dated or if they should remain.
- If the carpet, the tiles or the linoleum are old and need to be replaced.

Try to be objective and most of all try to see your home through the eyes of a stranger," someone who has never seen your house before and what he or she would change or do.

The first important thing when re-decorating your home is selecting the paint. Painting can be the least expensive thing in the redecorating process, and it's amazing what a fresh coat of paint can do.

Beautiful crown moldings, baseboards and built-ins are often lost against white walls. But they will be enhanced and will look beautiful with the appropriate color.

A neutral sofa or a set of armchairs can be uninviting but will "come to life" with the right paint color in the room.

Five things to consider

1. The paint finishes: Four most common finishes are:
 - Semi gloss: for bathrooms, kitchens, baseboards, banisters and doors. (It is easy to clean)
 - Flat: for walls, ceilings in dining rooms, living rooms, entrance, hallways etc...
 - Satin: for bathroom cabinets (you can also use Semi Gloss, the Satin finish looks more elegant and works very well with dark colors such as brown and black).
 - Egg shell: for all walls and ceilings as an alternative to flat finish. It has a low sheen to it and is easier to clean.
2. Paint samples: There are three popular choices:
 - Colors to go: Most paint stores such as Sherwin Williams sell them. These are paint samples in small containers for you to take home and try. If your paint store does not carry them, you can also buy one quart of paint for each color of your choice. Do not buy bigger than quart sizes as you will not use much.
 - Giant paint swatches: They work well. Most paint stores sell them.
 - Small paint chips: they are available for free everywhere. But the 2x2-inch paint chip is hard to translate to an entire wall.
3. Testing the color. It is better to test the paint directly on the walls, as colors can look different when applied to a wall. Apply a small square approximately 12 x 12 inches. Wait until the square completely dries, from 15 to 20 minutes. Remember that a color will look one to two shades darker when dry. It is safer to opt for one shade lighter when you purchase the paint.
4. The number of colors: I recommend buying paint samples.

ommend selecting colors maximum for your house should be rainbow.

The colors should be for a harmonious look for the house.

You can choose colors if you prefer shades of that color done in smaller.

5. Choosing the color: The space, the lighter the color. Large spaces and even bold colors freshening and cooling rooms that face west.

See TIPS Page

ing in an MLP involves risk from investment stocks. Rising interest rates adversely impact the performance of MLPs.

Also, there are risks associated with MLPs and conflicts of interest common unit holder general partner, arising from incentive payments.

Real estate investment (REITs). A REIT is a company that owns and, in most cases, income-producing real estate as apartments, shopping offices and hotels.

A REIT can be used for you to invest in real estate. REITs combine many of the real estate and stock market advantages and diversification in multiple properties.

REITs may be less contain a higher risk of principal that other traded equity investments be more appropriate for willing to assume a moderate risk for the potentially greater return.

As always, you should evaluate whether any investments are right for your specific situation.

Leila Gough is an author and President at A. G. Gough SIPC. She can be reached at 510-452-8060.

Don't miss Weekly Sales Auto Section

OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30

32 Jerome Avenue
Piedmont

Exquisite Mediterranean in a tranquil setting. Four bedrooms plus au pair suite. Beautifully updated kitchen/sunroom looking out to spacious backyard and garden.

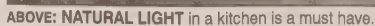
Offered at \$1,350,000

Photo Tour at
walkersrealty.com

Terri Bates Walker
Real Estate Broker
510-282-4420

Christopher Ryan

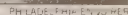
If you have one dog or one cat, the odor might be fairly easy to get rid of. Lots of pets, however, are a different matter. "I sold a property owned by a woman who had 30 cats," said Christopher J. Ryan, an agent in the Philadelphia. "Fortu-



RIGHT: A NICELY LANDSCAPED yard brings buyers to the door.

In the city, below-grade kitchens and the narrow, winding staircases

"The first doesn't sell," he said. "The second one sells better."



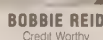
Free Classes
How To. Learn how much home you can afford, how to qualify for a loan and why you need a Realtor, at "Buying Your First Home." The free seminar is 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 11 at Gallagher & Lindsey in Alameda. Each attendee

Unusual. This is "Not Your Ordinary First Time Home Buyer Seminar." **Kathy Bell-Mathy and Jean Powers** of Harbor Bay Realty present the class. They promise a fun, informative session as their version of a first time homebuyer seminar. Ask about the next date or request a personal consultation via e-mail to jean@jeanpowers.com or by calling 510-865-3095.

"Build Your Business" is a seminar designed for the real estate professional. Move to the next level.

Two Oakland Association of Realtors events are happening Thursday, Nov. 17.

■ A Marketing Meeting at OAR Auditorium, 8:45 to 10 a.m. offers a Measure EE Refresher. RSVP with **Ramadan Aziz** at 510-339-1230, RAziz@firstam.com or call OAR at 510-836-3000



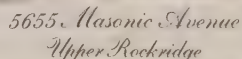
■ The WCR Business Resource Breakfast: — "The ABC's and 123's of Real Estate Investments" is 8:30 to 10 a.m., at the Buttercup Kitchen Restaurant, on Broadway, in Oakland. Call **Felecia Favroth** at 510-967-6661 or felecia1@aol.com

OPEN HOUSE

Attention Real Estate Brokers! Give your agents an edge over the competition. Veteran Business Coach **Kitty Cole** offers a class on

See REID, Page B5

SUNDAY 2-4:30. Well located in upper ridge, this home offers significant privacy. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, hardwood floors. New kitchen & bath. Large rumpus w/ fireplace. Sound-proof music studio.
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- Private setting

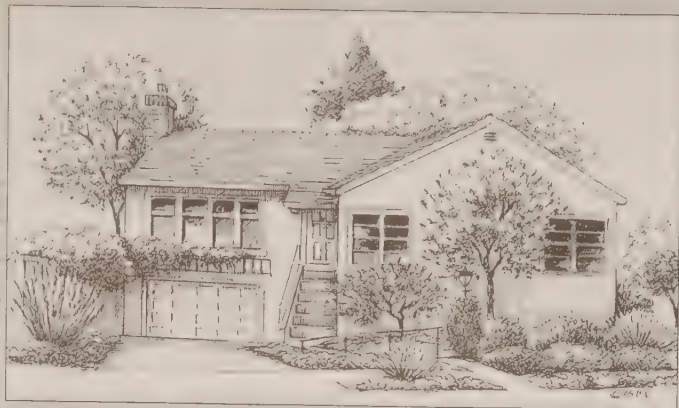
15 Slater Lane, Berkeley, CA 94705 (Oakland)

Julie Nachtwey
www.julienachtwey.com
510.540.8743



Real Estate Focus:

Kensington home has impressive new upgrades



THE EXQUISITELY APPOINTED KENSINGTON HOME at 312 Rugby Avenue has recently been expanded and dramatically transformed. Situated on quiet tree-lined street with an inviting park-like garden, this lovely three-plus bedroom, three-bath home features a new gourmet kitchen, master bedroom suite, large family room, office, deck and patio. Over 2,700 square feet of gracious living including a recently completed, architect-designed, 1,200 square-foot master suite and family room addition.

Features include a graceful curved atrium with its granite-topped breakfast bar and the sunny family room with its Brazilian cherry hardwood floors and French doors leading to the magical garden. Every effort was made to blend the old with the new, such as extending the oak hardwood flooring into the newly remodeled kitchen, complete with custom cherry cabinets, granite countertops and high-quality appliances. Significant upgrades include: seismic retrofitting, two-zone radiant heating, high-efficiency on-demand, hot water heater, all copper plumbing, electrical system, sewer lateral, dual-pane Marvin windows and doors, new deck and patio. Close to Kensington shops and restaurants, the highly rated Kensington Elementary School, and the commute bus to SF.

Price: \$1,075,000.
Open Nov. 13, 2 - 4:30 p.m.
Listing agents: Todd Hodson and Ron Egberman, Marvin Gardens Real Estate, 510-559-2915.

CONTACT THE REAL ESTATE EDITOR AT 510-748-1655
OR E-MAIL DEVANOSKY@CCTIMES.COM.

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When it comes to an agent: Choose wisely

Return to May 1999
Number 281 in a series of true
experiences in real estate

For a number of reasons, whom
you choose as your agent can
make you or break you. You will,
of course, pick someone you feel
comfortable talking to, and you'll
confirm that he or she has the time
and inclination to consider you in-
dividually. But, in addition, particu-
larly if you are a buyer in this su-
per-charged market, you will want
as your representative someone
who is able in other ways that you
may not have considered.

Agents prefer to work with good
agents. Given a choice, that's what
they do, and more and more fre-
quently lately, there are several of-
fers presented by several different
agents to choose from.

Sometimes, of course, one offer
is obviously better than the others,
and that is the one that is accepted.
But when there are similar offers,
the deciding factor can be the rep-
utation of the agent who has
brought it in. If you are the buyer in
that case, you may get the house
because you chose the best agent.

Fortunately, in our market area,
there are quite a number of excel-
lent agents who are known for their
"good works". It would be a plea-

sure to do another deal with you"
cooperating agents tell them. To
other agents they say, "Agent Best
is a joy to work with".

Long before presenting an offer,
these agents have been genuinely
concerned about their clients. They
don't want anyone to get in over his
head; they've made sure the buyer
is able to afford to buy and is com-
mitted to buying the house he is of-
fering on.

Once in contract, these agents
do their part. They keep on top of
things; their paperwork is organized,
and they return phone calls
promptly. When a problem does
arise, they don't go to pieces leav-
ing the cooperating agent to fix it.
Instead, they are calm, flexible and
resourceful. They can be depended
upon to talk and to listen to their
clients, advise them on available
options, help to find the best solu-
tion for everyone.

Other agents want to work with
these good agents because they
know that their clients have been
educated and are being kept in-
formed through the sale. And —
bottom line — their sales close.

Sometimes agents know about
the reputation of other agents be-
cause they've heard stories. Here's
a story we heard from an upset list-

TARPOFF AND
True Estate

ing agent:

"He (the buyer) was
vacation just before
no one to cover for
had already signed
the buyers were back
the title company
"I thought every-
until I got a voice
from the agent
wanted to renegotiate
know what the agent
had no way to call
My sellers were
couldn't do anything
long days while we
agent to get back
That was a situa-
forgivable. Also, I
everyone involved
who heard about it
set to the seller. On
listing agent will ever
with that other agent
course not.

Judgment about
agent, his client, and
acceptable begins
is presented. There's
to an offer than pro-
more that the highest

See TARPOFF

shown by appointment

Beautiful Elmwood Brown Shingle with five
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lot. Close to shops and BART, this home is
in excellent condition with grand
proportions.

Offered at \$1,750,000



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on exceptionally large sites that
average over 8,000 square feet.
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Rosewood
Estates

*Example Sales Price: \$818,500; First mortgage loan amount \$654,800; Second mortgage loan amount of \$81,850;
Down Payment \$81,850

First mortgage is a 30-year 80% adjustable rate mortgage (ARM), 5.50% interest rate; APR 6.4239%. (APR is subject to increase after
closing). The first year payment is \$2,587.25 bought down from \$3,717.88. The second year payment \$2,940.34 bought down from
\$3,717.88. The third year payment is \$3,317.78 bought down from \$3,717.88. The fourth through fifth year payment is \$3,717.88.
The sixth through thirteenth year payment and interest may adjust annually. These payments include principal and interest. The \$81,850

10% (TV, adjustable rate (ARM) second mortgage is a home equity line of credit (HELOC) 6.75% interest rate. 18% maximum
The initial APR is subject to increase after closing. The introductory interest rate of 6.75% and interest-only payment of \$400.00
fixed for the first three months. The HELOC is structured with a 5-year draw period and a 15-year amortized repayment period.
payments during the draw period are equal to the interest that is due. The payments (principal and interest) and interest rate
monthly through the full term of the loan. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Pulte Mortgage, LLC is licensed by the
Department of Corporations under the CA Residential Mortgage Lending Act. An Equal Housing Lender. Approximate square
map not to scale



Tracy location across from fully equipped park + www.pulte.com



Tarpoff

FROM PAGE B4
 Always win. Among other things, an agent covers timing, contingencies, escrow, property, the buyer's loan, and the division of sale costs.
 Any one of these, or several, may be unacceptable to the seller. For example, the buyer's agent must remain in his house after the closing of escrow, and if this will be a problem for the seller, the offer will probably not be accepted. At the least, a counter offer will have to be issued.
 Good agents try hard to write an offer that can be signed as it is written because, although writing a counter offer is easy enough, the contract will not be firm until signed by all parties. Until then, someone may have second thoughts and

is anything that they've overlooked. An agent may say, for instance, that he assumes the appliances are included in the sale and he's written them into the contract, then find that the seller is taking the appliances. Or, worse, the buyer's agent says he is "pretty sure" his buyers can qualify for the loan they need but they haven't had time yet to fill out a loan application.
 It's sloppy business, and the trouble with it is that even if these buyers have offered the highest price among many, the offer will probably not be accepted. At the least, a counter offer will have to be issued.
 Good agents try hard to write an offer that can be signed as it is written because, although writing a counter offer is easy enough, the contract will not be firm until signed by all parties. Until then, someone may have second thoughts and

renegotiations may occur.
 Another difference in agents is in their ability to draw a picture of their buyers. Not always, but often, the passing of a house to someone new is an emotional experience — sometimes very emotional. Many sellers want to know why their house has been chosen, want to know who is going to live there.
 We were listing agents for such sellers not long ago. It happened that there were three offers. The sellers asked the agent representing the highest offer what his buyers liked about the house.
 "I don't know," he said. "It's a nice house. They wanted to offer on that house around the corner but they thought it needed too much work."
 "So, it's the remodeling we did that they like?" asked the sellers. "Gee, I don't know," the agent said. "They said it was close to BART."

It is certainly possible that those buyers were head over heels in love with that house. Had they been there talking to the sellers, they would have said so. Instead, they had to rely on their agent to represent their interests.
 They were passed over because our sellers could never get a clear picture of whom they were selling to. They couldn't attach themselves to these people.
 The sellers accepted less money from another buyer, a buyer whose agent cared enough to sketch her well. Imagine how mystified the first people will be when they learn that the house sold for less money than they were willing to pay.
 Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoff are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 653-2050 and at www.tarpoffandtalbert.com.

THIS WEEK'S OPEN HOME GUIDE STARTS ON B22.

Windermere Real Estate



Rare "F" Model Townhouse on Bay Farm Island

This gorgeous home has 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and a great room. This spacious room faces a garden setting flooded with light. The kitchen and baths have been refurbished, and the home is move-in ready. The perfect home for entertaining, or just enjoying a sense of elegant spaciousness. Close to Alameda's best schools, shopping, transportation, and shoreline. Open Sunday 11/13 from 1-4. Or call Peter Fletcher for showing. Asking \$574,950



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 @ 510-521-1177

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 Properties of the East Bay

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Reid

FROM PAGE B3
 "Agents who want to attract a buyer, create a checklist and more. The class is a 12-week series. Cole will conduct training for your office exclusively. Contact her at kittyco@windermere.com."
CREATE 21 ESPANOL
 Based on its Career Real Estate Training and Education (CRE-21) program, Century21 Real Estate Corporation launched CRE-21 en Español. The new-agent

fundamentals course is now also a Spanish language program. The intention is to help Spanish speaking agents better serve their Hispanic clientele. Get more details about CREATE 21 en Español at www.century21.com.
TRAINED PERFORMANCE
 Level3 Performance Training promises less prospecting and more sales. Become a top producer. Level3 invites Realtors to attend a no cost, no obligation orientation. Training for entire offices is available. Call Eric Eng at 510-376-8719

ports regional sales consultant is Debra Beck. Beck is also a Women's Council of Realtors member. Welcome her at 800-748-5233.
 ■ Real estate broker Renee Terrell of Realty World Chabot Highlands wants to help kids learn. When she wears her other hat she does marketing for Rap-A-Matics. RAP offers educational software and books developed to promote children's math skills while reinforcing positive self-esteem. Learn more by visiting www.Rap-A-Matics.com.

meetings, workshops, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). Information deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an email to bobbierid@mindspring.com.
BE KIND TO THE ENVIRONMENT. RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER.

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. 1997 home on 1916 triplex on a spectacular and very spacious landscaped grounds! Main house: 3BR/3.5BA; #1 townhouse 3+BR/2BA; #2, 2+BR/1BA; #3 1+BR/1BA. A world of its own!
 Offered at \$3,700,000



1010 Cragmont Avenue
 Berkeley

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 GRUBBCO.COM

BEBE McRAE
 Office: 510.652.2133/415
 bmcrac@grubbco.com

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A distinctive fusion of classic Craftsman detailing and modern amenities allows a comfortable and pleasing experience in this home. Enjoy the large level play area. Featuring five bedrooms, and more baths.
 Offered at \$1,390,000



6125 Pinewood Road
 Montclair

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sold
 sold



35. Muir Avenue
 Piedmont
 Originally offered at \$2,950,000
 Represented the buyer



1183 Sunnyhills Road
 Crocker Highlands
 Originally offered at \$1,500,000
 Represented the seller

The GRUBB Co.
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MARY MERRICK
 Office: 510.339.0400/315
 mmerrick@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A charming Parkwoods condominium with modern amenities & stylish architecture. This Montclair model features two bedrooms, two full baths, an excellent kitchen, hardwood floors and is conveniently located close to restaurants, shopping and hiking trails.
 Offered at \$509,000



260 Caldecott Lane #124, Oakland

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Adam Watts
 (925) 639-5030
 adam@adamwattsrealty.com

Open Sunday, November 13, 2-5



Your Own Private Paradise

Charming three bedroom and two bath English Tudor with Bay and City views, art studio and chef's kitchen. Bamboo floors and knotty pine give warmth to this exquisite home. Azul King solid granite countertops, Bosch and Wolf stainless appliances, Greek marble, Jacuzzi tub, steam and more. This delightful home has been tastefully appointed with the finest materials from around the globe. Sophisticated, charming, and inviting.

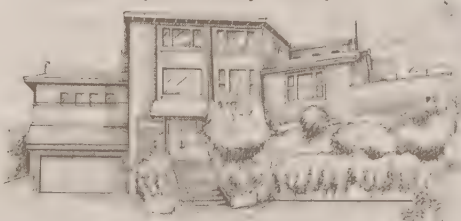
3068 Tully Place, Oakland
 Visit me at: www.3068Tully.com

Offered at \$749,950

Prudential
 California Realty

6850 Exeter Drive, Oakland

Open Sunday 2-4:30pm



Surrounded by picturesque SF/Bay and wooded hillside views, this exceptionally spacious 3+bedroom, 2.5bathroom Piedmont Pines contemporary offers the best of both family living and entertaining. Complimented by an open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, picture windows, hardwood floors, and updates throughout. Enjoy every nuance from the formal entry, family room with fireplace, gourmet kitchen, oversized bedrooms and exceptional master suite. Gorgeous landscaped yards are accentuated by the level lawn, meandering paths, sauna, deck access and incredible views!

Asking Price \$1,195,000

Visit my website at www.NahidNassiri.com

MONTCLAIR

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 "Your Best Move"
 510.339.4550 direct
 510.339.8400 office

17066 Broadway Terrace.

Sunday, 1-5 P.M.

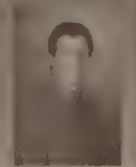


A Retreat ! 1" time on market. City and Golden Gate views. 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths. Follow wooden stepped garden path to a beautifully designed and well maintained home. The tile, posts, beams and clear Douglas Fir trim give this home pride-of-ownership. Natural morning light in the kitchen. Afternoon light cascades deck and living room.

Offered at \$ 990,000

MONTCLAIR

Better Homes Realty



Michael Gallagher
 REALTOR
 (510) 339-6329 Direct
 (510) 339-8800 Office
 Fax: (510) 339-8800
 Email: michaelg@mbhr.com

Avoid decorating mishaps this holiday season

■ Some tips to keep your house safe

CSA INTERNATIONAL

With the holidays just around the corner, a season of joyous celebration and festive decorations is quickly coming upon us. The holidays invite all sorts of fun activity, from lighting candles to stringing lights; yet one of the most important considerations is keeping your house and family safe from fire and injury.

"Even the most common holiday activities and traditions can lead to accidents in the home if certain safety precautions are not considered," says Sue Dempsey, vice president, sales, North America, CSA International.

"The use of decorations, candles, and Christmas trees in homes contributes to an increase in residential fires during December and early January. In fact, more than 100,000 fires are reported during the holiday season, several of which

tragically result in death or serious injury.

By taking the proper safety precautions, families can help remove potential dangers associated with holiday decorating and preserve the fun," continues Dempsey.

CSA International, a leading North American product certification and testing organization, offers Twelve Tips For Holiday Home Safety as a part of its 2005 Holiday Safety Campaign.

Read the following tips, and then test your own knowledge of holiday safety precautions on CSA International's family-friendly Web site: www.csaholiday.com.

Twelve tips for safety

1. Lights out: Always turn off holiday lights when you leave the house unattended or when going to bed.

2. Merry and bright: Carefully inspect holiday light strings each year and discard any frayed cords, cracked lamp holders or loose con-

nections. When replacing bulbs, unplug the light string and be sure to match voltage and wattage to the original bulb.

3. Setting up the tree: Try to purchase a freshly cut tree, as they are more resistant to ignition. Keep your Christmas tree watered and out of the range of open candles. When using an artificial Christmas tree, choose one that is tested and labeled fire resistant. Regardless of the type of tree, place it away from heat sources such as radiators or fireplaces.

4. Timing is everything: Use an outdoor timer certified by CSA International to switch lights on and off. Lights should be turned on after 7 p.m. to avoid the electricity rush hour.

5. Check for the Certification Mark: When purchasing light strings, extension cords, spotlights, electrical decorations, gas appliances, or carbon monoxide alarms,

See SAFETY, Page B8

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Easy living - all on one level! This gracious, light-filled three bedroom, two bath home has lovely spacious rooms, low-maintenance gardens, a wonderful indoor-outdoor flow and is just moments to shopping, dining and transportation.

View a photo tour at johnandjudith.com
Offered at \$850,000

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JOHN & JUDITH RATCLIFFE
OFFICE: 652.2133/429
johnandjudith@grubbco.com



15 Arroyo Avenue
Piedmont



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Jazzy home in the heart of Rockridge. Three bedrooms, one bath with large public rooms, huge lower level with development potential. Fabulous new architect designed studio with bath, perfect for office or au pair. Artistic and stylish! Cool garden. Very special!

Offered at \$839,000

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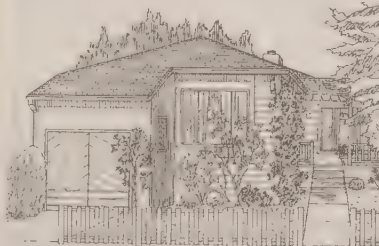
5437 Shafter Avenue, Oakland

FAYE KEOGH
Office: 510.652.2133/426
fkeogh@grubbco.com



Open Sunday 1:30-4:30

A GREAT HOUSE at a "REAL" PRICE! *



1471 Catherine Drive,
Berkeley

A beautifully remodeled and meticulously maintained home in a quiet, tucked-away enclave near the North Berkeley BART, Monterey Market and lots of gourmet shops and cafes on Hopkins St, Gilman St and Solano Ave.

\$739,000

* "Real" price means a price the seller would actually accept, not a "teaser" price.

For a photo tour, visit:
realtyadvocates.com/1471.html

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www.realtyadvocates.com

OPEN HOMES SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, 2-4:00 PM



49 SEAGULL DRIVE, MARINA BAY

Elegant 4BR/2.5BA home in the Breakers community. One of the largest units in the development. Remodeled upper level with family room, master suite and 4th bedroom or office. Freshly painted exterior. Open floor plan, great for entertaining. Gated entry. Pool, spa and clubhouse. \$739,000



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marvin
gardens

Perfect two bedroom, one bath starter home in the heart of N&E. Hardwood floors throughout along with many new dual-pane windows. Wood-burning fireplace in living room, formal dining with built-in cabinet.

Freshly painted exterior. Large, level lot with space for extra cars. Newer rear deck off master bedroom. \$469,000

646 39TH ST., RICHMOND N&E



84 San Mateo Rd. • Berkeley

OPEN

Sunday

November 13

2:00 to 4:30pm



North Berkeley Craftsman

Coveted cul-de-sac location, exquisite 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Atelier with views, 3 fireplaces. Large eat-in kitchen, family room. Lovingly renovated, the result is an artistic expression of the current era. Each room offers a private world looking out on lush grounds.

Offered at \$1,399,000

MIRIAM WILSON

Broker Associate

Ph: 510.339.8900/300 E-Mail: miriamw@sbcglobal.net

new listings



2207 Damuth Street, 4-units

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Dimond district fourplex near all restaurants and shops. All units are two bedroom, two-level townhouse style. Great income potential.

Offered at \$895,000



2301 Ivy Drive, 5-units

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Ivy Hill. Architectural distinctive building. Spacious two bed units with formal floorplan. Ideal for occupant.

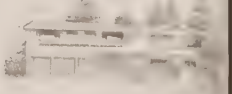
Offered at \$850,000



1648 10th Avenue, 8-units

BY APPOINTMENT. Fast growing new Asian Town neighborhood. Two buildings on one lot with common courtyard.

Offered at \$795,000



3711 Fruitvale Avenue, 12-units

BY APPOINTMENT. 12 units in the Dimond district, next to Dimond Park. Separate meters and courtyard. new no

Offered at \$1,295,000

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ED KUO
510.919.0707
kuo@grubbco.com

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510.339.9825
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REALTY AND INVEST

This view can be yours



...tomorrow

The conveniences: a gourmet Safeway, Borders, Starbucks and Wells Fargo Bank right downstairs. The amenities: an outdoor heated pool, two outdoor spas, fitness center, clubhouse, dog run, parking for you and your guests, and more. The views: simply breathtaking.

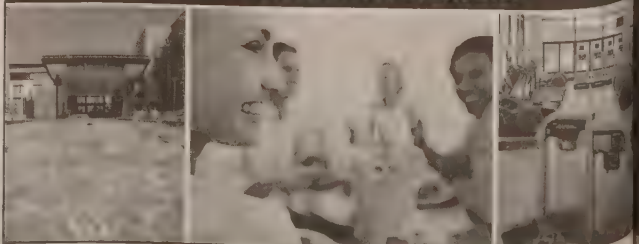
Located in South Beach, The Beacon is within a short walk of San Francisco's finest shopping, dining, culture and entertainment. One-three bedroom homes (some with dens, patios and balconies) priced from the high \$500,000's.

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Clinic
Tomorrow

Replacing your windows
when? Seminar gives
needed details

TRULY AND WHITE, a leading build-
er in the Bay Area, is of-
fering a free windows clinic. A badly
leaky window can cause serious
problems such as leakage and
mold growth. The clinic will give
homeowners advice on avoiding
these problems, while successfully
installing new windows for their re-
novation projects.

FREE WINDOWS FOR
MODELS

Call to 11 a.m., Tomorrow
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Tim Jones of T. Russell
and Chris Martin of Marvin Win-
dows and Marc Silveira of Tyvek as
they discuss the importance of se-
lecting the right window and ensur-
ing successful installation.

BERKELEY HILLS 510.524.9888

REALTY



1026 Ordway St., Albany
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

This rare & wonderful 4-bdrm, 2-bath home gleams with owner's pride. The immaculate home is surrounded by verdant gardens, lush lawn and raised vegetable beds. Inside, craftsman charm is re-interpreted w/ updated comforts and amenities.

Bill and Tracy x33 \$885,000



646 - 58th Street, Oakland
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

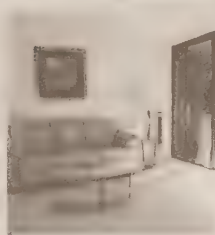
Fabulous chic bungalow. This gorgeous remodel remains sensitive to period details; formal dining with hutch, fireplace, hardwood floors, picture rails... Bigger than 2 bedrooms and 1 bath, the home also has a lower level plus room and attached garage.

Jane Allen x23 \$525,000



1313 Henry St., Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30
New Listing! Spectacular 3+ bdrm, 2.5 bath townhouse condo built in 1992. Sited away from the street at rear of lovely 4-unit complex in coveted North Berk. Just moments from Gourmet Ghetto. Nearly 1700 sq.ft. w/mstr suite on 3rd level. Great light, privacy, green outlooks, & both front and rear yard/garden areas—very rare for a condo.

Warren Lei x14 \$718,000



555 Pierce St., #240, Albany
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

Spacious, sunny, remodeled 2-bdrm, 2-bath condo in security building. This corner unit with balcony off living room is freshly painted. Remodeled kitchen with granite and maple cabinets; both baths remodeled with marble and maple cabinets.

Joan Brunswick x12 \$410,000

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Open Homes

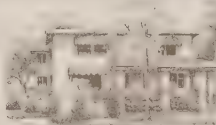


Berkeley \$1,750,000
Quintessential 5+BR/3.5 bath brown shingle designed by Carr Jones in 1912. Stunning, sweeping Bay, Golden Gate & SF views from 2 floors. Very comfortable 3,693 sq. ft. living. Scenes of the movie "The Insider" were shot inside & in front. Lg lot w/ creek. 3 fireplaces, kitchen remodeled w/granite, slate & copper.
822 Santa Barbara Rd. Open Sun 2-4:30
Catherine Krueger 527-9111



Kensington \$1,075,000
Gracious, exquisitely appointed, recently expanded and dramatically transformed 3+BR, 3-bath home. Situated on a quiet tree-lined street, with an inviting park-like garden, this sun-filled home features a new gourmet kitchen, master bedroom suite, large family room, office, deck & patio. Over 2,700 sq. ft.

312 Rugby Ave. Open Sun 2-4:30
Todd Hodson & Ron Egberman 524-0800



Albany \$949,000
Hard to find 4+BR/2BA Albany home on large lot! Spacious sun-filled rooms... Liv rm w/built-ins + coveled ceiling, FDR w/box beam ceiling, built-in hutch w/leaded glass doors. Gracious staircase w/ generous landing. 2+rooms, huge basement. One block from Solano Ave. shops & restaurants.

1451 Marin Ave. Open Sun 2-4
Ann Arriola Plant 527-2700 x 27



Albany \$949,000
Custom built, very stylish contemporary features vaulted ceiling, striking fireplace, 3+ bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 family rooms and a cook's kitchen. Also has a beautiful pool and pool house. A truly unique living experience.

1015 Ramona Coming Soon
Wendy Bakkena & Cathleen Chambers 527-2700



El Cerrito \$899,000
Stunning Architecture! Newly reconstructed 4BR/2.5BA home in the E.C. Hills features: Striking GG Bridge view, huge master suite w/Jacuzzi, den w/ shoji door, vaulted high ceilings, brand new kitchen & baths, formal dining, family room, deck, & beautifully landscaped yard.
532 Bonnie Dr. Open Sun 2-4
Herman Sun 527-9111



Richmond Annex \$889,000
Virtually A New Home! Spectacular 2-story Art Deco-style home is conveniently located near BART, E.C. Plaza & Pacific East Mall. Can be 5BR/3BA, or 3BR/2BA upstairs with 2BR/1BA legal rental unit downstairs. Top-quality workmanship, high-end appliances & fixtures. Landscaped yard, deck.
5919 Van Fleet St. Open Sun 2-4
Herman Sun 527-9111



El Cerrito \$697,000
Duplex in Fantastic Location. Two very different floor plans for both these 2BR/1BA units (one unit is all-one-level). One block from El Cerrito Plaza BART. Beautifully landscaped individual yards. Great condition!

325-329 Coronado Ave. Open Sun 2-4
Mary Gray & Mykah Larkins 527-9111



Albany \$640,000
Wonderful Albany home with second unit for income. Upstairs: 2BR/1BA, fireplace, formal dining room, large deck. Downstairs: 1BR/1BA Large 1-car garage, sweet back yard, dual-paneled windows throughout

1117 & 1119 Cornell Open Sun 2-4
Alice McLeish 527-2700 x 35



Berkeley \$615,000
This spacious, inviting 2-story house has it all: Updated kitchen w/tiled countertops and floor, 4 large BRs, 2 updated baths, big family room and sunporch, professionally landscaped yard. Conveniently near shops & transportation in friendly, diverse neighborhood.

2719 Mathews St. Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Olga Stepanyan 527-9111



Kensington \$595,000
Sunny Kensington View Home. This charming, spacious 2+ bedroom, 1-bath home features lovely views of SF, Golden Gate Bridge, and the bay. Random-plank hardwood floors, fireplace, formal living and dining rooms, separate attic, and very private back yard and garden.

109 Kenyon Ave. Open Sun 2-4:30
Todd Hodson & Ron Egberman 524-0800



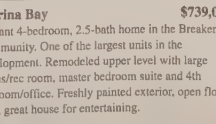
El Sobrante \$579,000
Country retreat nestled on private lane! Spacious 3BR/2BA home features oversized LR, open kitchen, large master suite w/walk-in closet. All on expansive lot w/room for gardening, play & entertaining on trellised flagstone patio. Extra space in finished basement in great for guest room, home gym or office.

2002 Thompson Lane Open Sun 2-4
Alexis Greenberg 381-3232



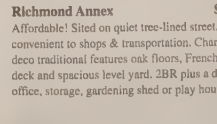
Richmond View \$549,000
All-one-level 1946 custom-built bungalow with separate studio/in-law unit. Features include: Remodeled kitchen, formal dining room, family room w/sliding glass doors to large level yard, hardwood floors, attached garage, lovely landscaped corner lot.

5029 Barrett Ave. Open Sun 2-4
Barbara Kaplan 527-9111



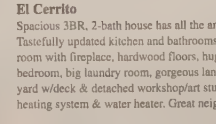
Marina Bay \$739,000
Elegant 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath home in the Breakers Community. One of the largest units in the development. Remodeled upper level with large bonus/rec room, master bedroom suite and 4th bedroom/office. Freshly painted exterior, open floor plan, great house for entertaining.

49 Seagull Dr. Open Sun 2-4:30
Darrell Hoh 524-0800



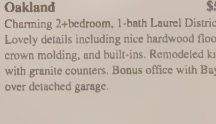
Richmond Annex \$469,000
Affordable! Sited on quiet tree-lined street, convenient to shops & transportation. Charming deco traditional features oak floors, French doors to deck and spacious level yard. 2BR plus a den or office, storage, gardening shed or play house.

5840 Van Fleet Open Sun 2-4
www.KathieBerg.com



El Cerrito \$599,000
Spacious 3BR, 2-bath house has all the amenities! Tastefully updated kitchen and bathrooms, living room with fireplace, hardwood floors, huge master bedroom, big laundry room, gorgeous landscaped yard w/deck & detached workshop/studio, new heating system & water heater. Great neighborhood.

1244 Richmond St. Open Sun 2-4
Olga Stepanyan 527-9111



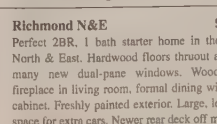
Oakland \$529,000
Charming 2+bedroom, 1-bath Laurel District home. Lovely details including nice hardwood floors, crown molding, and built-ins. Remodeled kitchen with granite counters. Bonus office with Bay views over detached garage.

3912 Vale Ave. Open Sun 2-4
Pat Duffy 524-0800



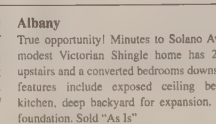
Richmond N&E \$485,000
Attractive "MacGregor" style home with a great floor plan and a big backyard perfect for gardening and entertaining. Rare find! 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, bonus room, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, fireplace, hardwood floors. Great location. Must see!

613 40th St. Contact Agent
Lloyd Jung 527-9111



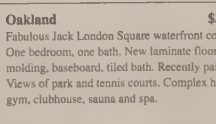
Richmond N&E \$469,000
Perfect 2BR, 1 bath starter home in the heart of North & East. Hardwood floors thruout along with many new dual-pane windows. Wood burning fireplace in living room, formal dining with built-in cabinet. Freshly painted exterior. Large, level lot w/ space for extra cars. Newer rear deck off master BR.

646 39th St. Open Sun 2-4
Darrell Hoh 524-0800



Albany \$429,000
True opportunity! Minutes to Solano Avenue. This modest Victorian Shingle home has 2 bedrooms upstairs and a converted bedrooms downstairs. Other features include exposed ceiling beams, open kitchen, deep backyard for expansion. Needs new foundation. Sold "As Is"

988 Kains Ave. Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Herman Sun 527-9111



W. Embarcadero #126 Open Sun 2-4
Jean Shrem & Marni Fischer 527-9111

For more information about these properties visit www.marvingardens.com

Safety

FROM PAGE B6

look for the certification mark of an accredited certification organization such as CSA International, UL or ETL to ensure that the products comply with applicable standards for safety and performance.

6. One and done: Never connect more than one extension cord together; instead use a single cord that is long enough to reach to the outlet without stretching, but not so long that it can get easily tangled.

7. The great outdoors: When hanging outdoor lights, keep electrical connectors off the ground and away from metal rain gutters. Use insulated tape or plastic clips instead of metal nails or tacks to hold them in place.

8. Climbing up: Using a ladder when you put up lights? Choose the correct ladder for the job and double check for a certification mark to ensure your portable ladder complies with applicable standards.

9. Keep the gas behind glass: Do not use your gas fireplace if the glass panel is removed, cracked or broken, and only allow a qualified service person to replace fireplace parts.

10. Sound the alarm: Test your smoke alarms monthly to make sure they work, and be sure to install smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms on every level of your home especially near sleeping areas.

11. Filter friendly furnace: To help prevent CO hazards in your home, have a qualified heating contractor perform a yearly maintenance check of your furnace and venting system, and clean or replace your furnace filter frequently during the heating seasons.

12. Clean the clutter: Do not store combustible materials such as gasoline, propane, paper, chemicals, paint, rags and cleaning products near your gas furnace. Gasoline or propane cylinders should be stored outside the home.

CSA International is a provider of product testing and certification services for electrical, mechanical, plumbing, gas and a variety of other products.

Recognized in the U.S., Canada and around the world, CSA's marks appear on billions of products worldwide. CSA International is a division of CSA Group, which also includes CSA, a developer of standards and codes, and QMI, a leading North American management systems registrar. CSA International can be found online at www.csa-international.org.

It's almost time to trim that persimmon tree

Q. I have a 30-foot-tall Hachiya persimmon tree that is more than 30 years old. The branches are very long and the fruit is very high in the tree. Now is a very messy time of the year with squashed fruit all over the ground from the birds, squirrels, raccoons and others animals. I'd very much like to pick the fruit early but I need to get the tree back down to a reasonable size to reach the



BUZZ BERTOLERO
The Dirt Gardener

See BUZZ, Page B9



new listings



77 Stratford Road, Kensington

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Carmel charm in the Kensington Hills. There is a story book quality about this three bedroom, one and one half bath home. Beautiful proportions and Bay views. Separate garden office. Offered at \$799,000

467 Vermont Ave, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Classic 30's home with 3 bedrooms, office and one bath. In a great neighborhood close to Kensington Village garden and Bay views. Offered at \$799,000

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<http://www.spre.com>

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EL CERRITO

Classic Tudor Home with 20's Charm

2613 Yuba (Open Sun 2-4) 3++BR 2.5 BA, FDR, Bay, Bridge and Mt. Tam Views! Sun Rm, Den, playroom, office, Updated Kitchen and remodeled Master Suite & bath. Generous backyard w/deck, newly rebuilt 2 car detached garage, all new paint, refinished hardwood floors, great light and clear Pest Control Report.

www.carladellazoppa.com

(510) 662-8558

EL CERRITO

Pride Of Ownership In St. Jerome's Neighborhood! \$629,000
2+ BR 1.5 BA almost 1400 sq. ft. Great opportunity for someone. Fireplace in LR, 1 car att. garage, hardwood flrs, new int. paint, Florida Rm, serene back patio, some SF & Bay Views! #40105963

KEVIN TANNAHILL

(510) 524-1112

EL CERRITO

Unbelievable Bay Views!

3BR 2BA Approx. 1688 sq. ft., new int. paint, gleaming hardwood flrs, fireplace, large bonus rm, move-in-condition #40119293

MICHELE MANZONE (510) 662-8558

RICHMOND ANNEX

Wonderful Starter Home Near El Cerrito Border

2BR 2BA approx. 1248 sq. ft., bonus rm, fireplace, large kitchen, huge family rm w/cathedral ceilings, great yard w/fruit trees #40121880

Noreen Buller

(510) 662-8558

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2BD/2.5BA. Townhouse style with all the touches at Marina Sea. **PENDING**

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13919 Seaquate Drive

3BD/2.5BA. Eat-in kitchen, vaulted ceiling, wet bar, Attached 2 car garage. Adjacent to Monarch Bay Golf Course. Close to restaurants, transportation & San Leandro Marina.

\$549,000

EL CERRITO

1524 RICHMOND ST.

3BD/1BA. Close to BART & I-580. New central heating system. Large lot. **PENDING**

\$549,000

1436 HARVARD DR.

ALAMEDA

4BD/3BA. Approx. 2045sf, brick, 1 car garage, 1 carport. **SOLD**

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New Custom Built Home. R&J Construction. 4bd/3ba room and den. This Craftsman home has top quality construction, high-end finishes, sits on a lot.

MONTCLAIR \$1,399,000



Upper Montclair Contemporary. Panoramic Bay and Canyon views comprise this 2004 Hennigan built home. Consisting of 3-bd/4ba, this home offers a total of 11 rooms.

MORAGA \$1,149,000



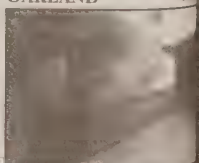
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OAKLAND \$849,000



Top of Montclair. Light and bright great room opens to Bay view. Large yard with lawn. 4bd/3ba, home office and den, chef's gas kitchen, FR, complete guest unit.

OAKLAND \$789,000



Montclair State-of-the-Art. perfect and built on steel. 3ba gas and granite kitchen, hardwoods, FP with floating against wall of glass. View from

OAKLAND \$775,000



Beautiful Tree-Lined Street. 3-bd/1ba, plus quaint 1bd/1ba guest unit with income potential. Many updates, including wood floors, molding and interior French doors.

ORINDA \$749,000



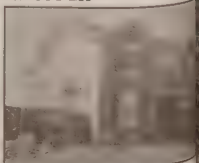
Affordable Orinda. Charming fixer in close-in Orinda location offers privacy and abundant opportunity. Sits on 0.52+/- acre lot and has 3bd/2ba and a large redwood deck.

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Convenient & Charming. Very desirable North Berkeley condo built in the 1920's. The 3bd/2ba home also includes 2 finished basement areas. Great location near downtown.

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A Home for the Holidays. Comfortable spaces are the hallmark of this stunning Viera Ranch home. Huge master suite, 3 bedrooms, loft upstairs, 1bd/1ba downstairs.

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Outstanding Value. This attractive home is filled with numerous upgrades. Spacious MBD features a vaulted ceiling and the well appointed gourmet kitchen includes a pantry.

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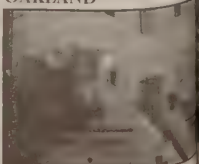
Montclair Starter. Sunny and private. 2bd/1ba with hardwood, FP and unfinished room to expand. Newer tiled kitchen and bath. Freshly painted and ready to move-in.

OAKLAND \$469,000



Wonderful 3+bd/1ba Home. Wonderful 3+bd/1ba home features hardwood floors, upgraded kitchen, new windows, new paint, new appliances and detached garage.

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Haddon Hills Flat. Spacious bedroom tenants-in-common blocks from Lake Merritt/Lake shops. Bright/sunny top floor. Hardwood floors and bay view.

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back can it be pruned
the proper time?
are pruned during
winter months. December
or February. This is when
domant so it's a little early


to start now. When done regularly,
they don't require much pruning like
other fruit trees. You always want to
remove any dead wood and the
rubbing and crossing branches, se-
lecting those branches growing
away from the center of the tree.
You should shorten the long arch-
ing branches and remove those that
are bending, twisted or dipping

down in the canopy of the tree. The
next step is to reduce the size of
the canopy.
Persimmon trees grow slowly,
so it takes time to recover from a
severe pruning. Pruning also inter-
rupts the production of fruit as this
removes most of the fruiting spurs.
The new growth will develop from
below where the limbs were cut.

Next summer, it may be necessary
to thin out some of these branches
if they are too close to one another.
You want the new branches to
be evenly spaced. Hachlya per-
simmons can be harvested when
they are rock hard. They will ripen
off the tree at room temperature.

See BUZZ, Page B10

**424 Orange Street, #110
Oakland
\$420,000**




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tile in kitchen. Private tiled patio. Assigned
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Jeans REALTY

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CONTRA COSTA TIMES MORTGAGE GUIDE				Rates as of 11/08/05	
COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	COMMENTS
Mortgage Services					
22339	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 1.375	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125 ... 1.250	3/1 ARM Jumbo 5.375 ... 1.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.500 ... 1.125	OPEN SAT & SUN. QUICK QUALIFIER OR NO INCOME LOANS AVAILABLE. NO POINTS LOANS AVAILABLE.
22339 Fees=\$1553	6.053 ... 30	6.285 ... 30	5.498 ... 30	5.623 ... 30	
Wide Home Loans					
14806	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ...	Pay Option ARM 1.000 ... 0.000	10/1 ARM Jumbo call ...	FREE pre-approval. Refinance/2nd homes. 100% financing/ no docs/ stated income 1.00% start rates. Call Now!
14806			4.930 ... 30		
Home Loans					
22339	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 2.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 2.000	15-yr Fixed 5.375 ... 2.000	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625 ... 2.000	Se habla Espanol. Your mortgage solution. Delivered! Apply now at ditech.com
22339 Fees=\$1890	5.851 ... 30	6.237 ... 30	5.644 ... 30	6.017 ... 30	
Downy Savings & Loan					
22339	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 1.875	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 1.875	1-mo COFI ARM 1.250 ... 1.000		Direct lender. 47 yrs experience; fixed & adjust rate mortgages; *Pot. neg. amort. Apply online at www.downysavings.com
22339 Fees=\$1428	6.079 ... 45	6.443 ... 45	5.898 ... 45		
Home Loans					
22339	30-yr Fixed 6.125 ... 1.125	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.625 ... 0.000	7/1 ARM Jumbo 5.750 ... 0.000	No closing costs HELOCs and Fixed 2nds No closing costs refinance Interest only for non-owner, 2nd homes
22339 Fees=\$1837	6.200 ... 30	6.420 ... 30	5.850 ... 30	5.960 ... 30	
Blackhawk Financial					
22339	30-yr Fixed 6.125 ... 0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.000	10/1 ARM Jumbo 6.125 ... 0.000	JUMBO AND SUPER JUMBO SPECIALIST Call 7 days per week 1(800) 796-MARY More rates at www.marylight.com
22339 Fees=\$1271	6.219 ... 30	6.470 ... 30	6.043 ... 30	6.169 ... 30	
Home Loans					
22339	30-yr Fixed 6.125 ... 0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 0.000	5/1 ARM 5.750 ... 0.000	Pick-A-Payment*** 1.000 ... 0.000	OPEN DAILY 9AM-6PM ***Pot Neg Am/ PMT on \$500K=\$1608
22339 Fees=\$1532	6.193 ... 30	6.408 ... 30	5.760 ... 30	5.813 ... 30	
Mortgage					
22339	30-yr Fixed 6.000 ... 1.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250 ... 1.000	3/1 ARM I/O 5.250 ... 1.000	5/1 JUMBO ARM I/O 5.625 ... 1.000	DON'T BE "LURED IN" BY LOW QUOTES! CALL ME FOR AN HONEST LOCKABLE RATE! FIND OUT WHY I GET TOP REFERRALS! I'M HERE NOW!
22339 Fees=\$1453	6.190 ... 30	6.440 ... 30	5.440 ... 30	5.920 ... 30	
Home Lending					
22339	30-yr Fixed 5.750 ... 1.750	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 1.250	7/1 80% C/O 5.875 ... 1.880	5y fx pay opt arm 1.750 ... 0.000	15x5.75apr 5.90 5/1 to 1m5.75apr 35 Opt 10/1 Cashout 75% to 1m10 375% Opt apr 58 30 yr fx to 400K 6.125% 0 pts apr 6.2
22339 Fees=\$1946	5.970 ... 30	6.150 ... 30	6.710 ... 30	6.810 ... 30	
Home Mortgage Mfg.					
22339	30-yr Fixed 6.000 ... 0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125 ... 0.000	20-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.000	15-yr Fixed 5.625 ... 0.000	BEST RATE AND FEE GUARANTEE NO APP OR LOCK FEE. MAINLINE/NATIONAL.COM EMPLOYEE PRICING FOR ALL CUSTOMERS.
22339 Fees=\$1298	6.090 ... 30	6.190 ... 30	5.960 ... 30	5.730 ... 30	
Home Capital					
22339	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 1.750	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000 ... 1.875	15-yr Fixed 5.250 ... 1.750	MTA 1.250 ... 1.000	A-B-C-D CREDIT OK. BK13 and FORECLOSURE OK. STATED TO 100% AVAILABLE. CASHOUT & DEBT CONS. SPECIALIST. *pot neg am
22339 Fees=\$1925	5.960 ... 35	6.214 ... 35	5.440 ... 35	4.890 ... 30	
Home Market					
22339	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125 ... 0.000	15-yr Fixed 5.500 ... 1.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.500 ... 1.000	Great Purchase. Refinance. Construction, Home Equity, 100% LTV Loans Great Service. Over 25 years in Business
22339 Fees=\$1875	6.032 ... 30	6.286 ... 30	5.806 ... 30	5.690 ... 30	
Home Bancorp					
22339	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ...	5/1 ARM Jumbo call ...	5/1 ARM call ...	Call for 1.50% ARM. All Credits. No Income Check Loan! Purch/Ref to 100%. saratogabancorp.com
22339 Fees=\$1893					
Home Financial					
22339	30-yr Fixed 6.000 ... 0.000	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250 ... 0.000	3/1 ARM 5.375 ... 0.000	2/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750 ... 0.000	100% financing full doc or stated income Commercial loans for 5+ units, mixed use Fixed 2nd loan rate as low as 6.15%
22339 Fees=\$1155	6.093 ... 30	6.287 ... 30	5.465 ... 30	4.874 ... 30	
Home Mutual Home					
22339	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ...	5/5 ARM Jumbo call ...	10/1 ARM Jumbo call ...	Purchases/Close in just 7 days/NO POINTS Comprehensive Pre-Approvals/NO POINTS (925) 256-7171 (868) WAMU-298
22339 Fees=\$1149					
Home Mortgage					
22339	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ...	10/1 ARM I/O call ...	5/1 ARM I/O call ...	PURCHASE - REFI - Fast Close / Low Docs Lock in a LOW Rate Today! - 925-738-1125 JUMBO 30 Yr, 10/1 ARM, 5/1 ARM - Int Only
22339 Fees=\$1180					
Home Mortgage					
22339	30-yr Fixed call ...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.625 ... 0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.625 ... 0.000	10/1 ARM Jumbo 6.000 ... 0.000	100% to 1 ML. Free Pre Approval Credit Lines to 3 ML. Tier 2 Bank Relationship Only
22339 Fees=\$1431	6.667 ... 30	6.667 ... 30	5.654 ... 30	6.041 ... 30	
Home Mortgage					
22339	30-yr Fixed 6.000 ... 0.500	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 0.500	1 Mo Option ARM 1.000 ... 0.000	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.250 ... 1.000	Deep Discounts For Excellent Credit I/O Available on all products WWW-FORTHESTRATE.COM 1-877-728-3569
22339 Fees=\$1633	6.115 ... 30	6.433 ... 30	1.034 ... 30	5.348 ... 30	
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22339 Fees=\$1358	6.060 ... 30	6.302 ... 30	5.860 ... 30	5.410 ... 30	
Home Mortgage					
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22339 Fees=\$2400	6.100 ... 30	6.281 ... 30	5.770 ... 30	6.277 ... 30	
Home Mortgage Corp.					
22339	30-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.500	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125 ... 0.500	3/1 ARM 5.125 ... 0.500	5/1 ARM 5.375 ... 0.500	No closing costs loans available www.amerisave.com Best rates and lowest fees guaranteed or we pay you \$300!
22339 Fees=\$1923	6.069 ... 30	6.256 ... 30	6.714 ... 30	6.552 ... 30	

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conforming mortgage loan and may vary from loan to loan. These are not inclusive of all costs and do not include points, prepaid interest, title insurance or escrow items. Click on
"Current Mortgage Rates" section of website to contact each company for details. Copyright 2003, INFOTRAK National Data Services and Knight Publishing Co.

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Buzz

FROM PAGE B9

fertilize persimmons with 16-16-16. Fertilizing during the spring of the year is discouraged, as it's a cause for premature fruit drop. I'd apply a half a pound of fertilizer per inch of trunk diameter, measured two feet off the ground and it should be evenly spread around the canopy and not piled at the trunk.

Q. I have 10-year-old variegated spider plant. The tips of the leaves always turn brown. The rest remains a nice healthy green with the typical white stripe through it. Can you tell me why the tips are always brown?

A. Indoor plants are susceptible to being over watered. In many cases, it's the excess water that remains in the saucer that is the source of the problem. However, I don't think that is your problem, as the plant would never have lived this long.

I suspect that the persistent tip burn is caused from the chemicals in the water. I'd try watering your

plant with distilled or bottled water. If this is the problem, the tip burn should disappear with the new growth. To encourage the new growth, feed your plant with one of the many indoor plant foods.

Q. I have several thriving redwood trees on my property. Some gardeners have suggested that I leave the debris from the trees on the ground while others say to be sure and clean it up. What is best for my trees?

A. Now that we are back on standard time with the days getting shorter and cooler, it doesn't matter. However, it is an issue during the summer months. I prefer to leave the natural debris on the ground from redwoods, pines, cedars and other conifers, year round. I would remove any of the debris resting in the bushes or shrubs or on top of any ground cover under the canopy of the trees. Mother Nature doesn't come by and clean up under these trees in their natural habitat. There purpose is to form mulch that shades the roots and conserves moisture.

This is critical with redwoods un-

like other conifers as they are shallow rooted and like lots of water much like a rose bush. This is especially important to those trees where the heat of the day sun beats on the soil around the drip line or under the canopy.

The heat stress is apparent in younger tree, five to 15 years old and where removal of the lower branches has raised the canopy. In time the debris will break down or compost itself into humus. To prevent the build up of soil at the trunk, rake it away from the base of the tree and redistribute it around the canopy. If you do remove the debris, check the area next May to see if the new layer of debris is sufficient mulch.

Q. When we moved into our house nearly 50 years ago, there was a plum tree that gave the most heavenly plums we ever had. After years of lopping off dead branches, it finally gave up the ghost completely this year. Recently, I noticed some shoots coming up a couple of feet away. Is there any chance one might grow to be a "clone" of the mother tree?

A. The suckers from your plum tree may not be a clone. Plum trees along with most of the other fruit trees are grafted or budded on to a rootstock. The shoots you see are more likely rootstock clones. Unfortunately, it's too late to reproduce this tree as the desirable portion has died off leaving just the rootstock. Now, there is chance that this tree was started from a pit or seed.

Fruit trees are unpredictable when started in this manner but this could be the exception. There is no way of telling by just looking at the shoots. You'll have to select one of these shoots, grow it on and see what develops in the next couple of years. Commercially, fruit trees are propagated from vegetative parts so all the characteristics are consistent from one clone to the next.

Buzz Bertolero is executive vice president of Navlet's Garden Centers and a California Certified Nursery Professional. Reach him at dirtgard@aol.com or to 360 Civic Drive Ste. D, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

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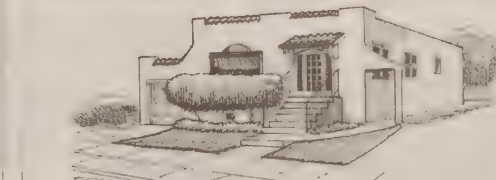
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OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH 1-4:30 PM

Carrie McAlister & John Newell, Realtors®

DIRECT: 510-292-2038 EMAIL: carrie@redoakrealty.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Located on a gorgeous tree-lined street in central Piedmont, this home offers five spacious bedrooms, and beautiful original detailing throughout. The light-filled kitchen-family room opens up to a lovely garden for easy entertaining.

Offered at \$2,690,000



JEAN SIMMONS
510.339.0400/201
simmons@grubbco.com

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

ANIAN TUNNEY
510.339.0400/217
tunney@grubbco.com

A RARE OFFERING: ALBANY DUPLEX



1155-1157 WASHINGTON AVENUE

Attractive ranch style, two bedroom and one bedroom units in a most desirable location. Hardwood floors and fireplaces. Functional floor plans. Detached car garage. Close to Solano Ave. shopping and restaurants. Minutes to El Cerrito Plaza and BART station. Shown by appointment only.

\$695,000

NORM WILLIAMS REALTOR

510 524-2311

BUYING A HOME?

Get pre-approved with a team of people who know the Market, the Area, and the Most Competitive Loan Programs

Today's Real Estate Market is highly competitive...

It's critical to work with a team who can deliver a great loan program on time.

Here's an example of one of our great loan programs:

HOME LOAN: \$700,000
MONTHLY PAYMENT: \$1770

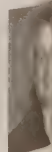
LOAN REQUIREMENTS: 5.578% APR; 1 year pre-payment penalty; DRE #01183556; Rates & Terms subject to change without notice; 600 min Equal Housing Lender; Possible negative amortization.



ALEX ALEXANDER
510-292-2020
2099 Pleasant Valley
Oakland



VINCE WIRTHMAN
510-504-5683
1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley



GWEN
510-847-2983
2983 Colma
Berkeley

Red Oak Realty Financial Services Provided by



BERKELEY FUNDING GROUP

Providing home loans to Berkeley and the surrounding communities

Newspapers: Your number one source for up-to-date East Bay real estate information.



BAY AREA BERKELEY PROPERTIES

Creating Connections for You Where Integrity and Experience Count!

1257 Francisco Street Berkeley 6 units \$2.2M Great Investment Property

3@3bdrms 1.5 ba / 3@2bdrms 1.5 ba Buyers looking for an Investment Opportunity? Bring your Friends and purchase this 6 unit Property with the potential to convert in to Tenants in Common so you each may own a townhome!

727 Coventry Road,
Kensington \$675,000
2 bedrooms + 1 bath
Great location with views!
OPEN HOUSE SUN 2-4



2434 Piedmont Avenue
Berkeley \$1,800,000
22 room Boarding House
of UC Berkeley Campus
Fabulous Location!

Bay Area Berkeley Properties • 1400 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley 94709
(510) 848-0010 Fax: (510) 848-1013

MORTGAGE RATES

REAL SERVICE • REAL PEOPLE • REAL DIFFERENCE

10% ADJUSTABLE	15 YEAR FIXED	30 YEAR FIXED JUMBO
RATE	RATE	RATE
APR 6.473%	APR 5.75% ** 5.944%	APR 6.25% *** 6.362%

510-748-8904

"Where People Come First"

2130 Otis Drive • Alameda
email: BrydonB@BankofAlameda.com



Member FDIC



Resort Lifestyle in Marina Bay

104 Commodore Drive

Open Sunday 2:00 to 4:00

- Outdoor patio entrance with white picket fence & large picture windows
- Wood floors, soaring ceilings & wood-burning fireplace
- Two bedrooms & 2.5 baths, laundry & nice-sized closets
- Two assigned parking spaces (one covered)
- Enjoy shoreline walks to Marina recreation and restaurants
- Convenient to 580, 80, Richmond Bridge, Marina Bay

More details and photos at www.baproperties.com

Diana Yonkouski, Broker 510.597.0292

Bay Area Properties on Claremont



1505 Acton St., Berkeley

New Listing!



This well maintained and updated split level bungalow is ideally located in the Monterey Market neighborhood of North Berkeley. It's just steps to BART and popular shops and cafes, with Cedar-Rose park right down the street. Its many amenities include:

- 2 bedrooms and 1 bath
- Sunny kitchen
- Hardwood floors and fireplace
- Living and dining rooms
- Sunny garden off kitchen
- Garage and extra storage

Priced at \$535,000

Open Sunday Nov. 6th

1:30 To 4:30pm

Anne L. Politeo and
Tim Q. Cannon,
Listing Agents
Call 527-5500 or
273-9326 V.M.

BERKELEYHOME
REAL ESTATE & INVESTMENT

www.BerkeleyHome.com

1575 Hopkins St. (corner of Monterey)
Berkeley, California



Established 1976

RED OAK REALTY | Homes Open Sunday

To sign up for daily email updates or for other Real Estate information, visit www.redoakrealty.com.



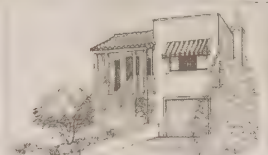
RED OAK
REALTY

1891 SOLANO AVENUE
BERKELEY, CA 94707
PHONE: 510-527-3387

2983 COLLEGE AVENUE
BERKELEY, CA 94705
PHONE: 510-849-9990

2099 PLEASANT VALLEY
OAKLAND, CA 94611
PHONE: 510-292-2000

www.redoakrealty.com



ALBANY \$629,000
3/2 - Fully updated home with bedrooms & bath upstairs, plus a fully developed downstairs with den, rumpus room, bath & garage.
1061 Cornell Avenue Open 2-4



EL CERRITO \$585,000
3/1 - Great home in best El Cerrito neighborhood. Close to Plaza, BART & all great E.C. amenities. Attached garage & French doors.
417 Lexington Avenue Open 2-4



KENSINGTON \$699,000
2+1/1 - Mid-century with lavish 2003 kitchen. Lots of space for home office/projects. Minutes to Berkeley. Visit www.heidandjerry.com.
199 Purdue Avenue Open 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW! \$559,000
3+1/2 - Large Craftsman off Park Blvd. Original charm balanced with smart upgrades. Hardwood floors, built-ins, plus-room, yard.
1281 E.34th Street Open 2-4

ALBANY \$559,000
2/1 - "Harvest" this home located on a 5,000 sq. ft. lot. Moments to Trader Joe's, BART, Solano Avenue & schools.
520 Cornell Street Open 2-4

EL CERRITO \$535,000
3/1 - Spacious house with potential to expand. Large yard, updated kitchen & bath, hardwood floors. Moments to Del Norte BART.
6628 Cutting Boulevard Open 2-4

OAKLAND \$955,000
3/2 - Beautiful English Tudor in Crocker Highlands. Original details with modern amenities. This home is move-in ready!
701 Paloma Avenue Open 2-4

OAKLEY - NEW! \$429,000
3/2+ - Gorgeous home in established neighborhood. Designer colors, formal dining, family room, vaulted ceilings, 2-car garage.
613 Country Lane Open 2-4

BERKELEY Starting at \$829,000
LIVE/WORK - Green-built with high-end finishes. Loads of light, decks, gardens. Near 4th Street shops & restaurants.
2209 & 2211 5th Street Open 1-4:30

EL CERRITO \$539,000
2/1 - Cute cottage surrounded by gardens. Updated kitchen, fireplace, nice floor plan, move right in. More at www.heidandjerry.com.
7485 Curry Avenue Open 2-4

OAKLAND \$474,050-\$494,950 each
8 TOWNHOMES - 3/3 duet-style, available to 1st time buyers of moderate income only. Must meet guidelines, special financing.
3220-3234 Linden Street Open 2-4

RICHMOND MARINA \$369,000
1/1 - Two-story townhome with views of the park, high ceilings, elegant upgrades, custom lighting and garden with picket fence.
412 Commodore Drive Open 1-4

BERKELEY \$799,000
4/2 - Huge single family home. 3,200 sq.ft. of living space, 2 kitchens, big yard, great location. More @ www.heidandjerry.com.
1235 Stannage Avenue Open 2-4

EL CERRITO \$475,000
2/1 - Very cute. Fireplace in living room, re-finished oak floors, new paint in & out, updated kitchen, bath & electric. Landscaped gardens.
1233 Liberty Street Open 1-4

OAKLAND \$494,000
2/1.5 - Charming 2-story condo with hardwood floors, patio. Close to College restaurants & shops! Don't miss it!
6422 Benvenue Avenue Open 2-4

RICHMOND MARINA \$545,000
3/2.5 - Rare Cape Cod townhouse. Two-story, landscaped courtyard, next to marina, parks and San Francisco Bay.
601 Commodore Drive Open 2-4



BERKELEY - NEW! \$525,000
3/1.5 - One of two detached 2-story, stylish townhouses. Built in 2003! Cooks kitchen, hardwood floors, carport, family room, more!
3112-A Ellis Street Open 2-4



EMERYVILLE - NEW! \$1,100,000
2 DUPLEXES/1 LOT - Two 2/1 townhouse units in front and two 3/2 units in back. Good rents, many upgrades, near all amenities.
1207 54th Street Open 2-4:30



OAKLAND - NEW! \$499,000
2/1 - Top unit! Stylish, mid-century patio condo. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Stainless appliances, dishwasher, eat-in kitchen, more.
2932 Morgan Avenue Open 2-4:30



RICHMOND N&E \$399,000
2+1/2 - Lovely bungalow in well established area. Hardwood floors, built-ins, designer colors. Affordable and super cute!
2732 Downer Avenue Open 2-4

BERKELEY \$749,000
TRIPLEX - Vacant 3/1 house with attic + 2 units for family or rental income, many upgrades. Near park, shops & BART.
1226 Russell Street Open 2-4:30

PITTSBURG \$439,500
3/2 - New interior and exterior paint. New granite kitchen counters. Central air/heat. Dining room opens to large deck & yard.
3781 Crestview Drive Open 1-4

OAKLAND \$499,000
2/1 - Move right into this lovely home. New bamboo floor, spacious kitchen, beautifully landscaped, huge backyard, freshly painted!
7916 Winthrop Street Open 2-4:30

RICHMOND MARINA \$470,000
2/2.5 - Experience the resort lifestyle! 2-story townhome with high ceilings, powder room, fireplace, large picture window and more.
326 Commodore Drive Open 2-4

BERKELEY \$695,000
2/1 - Extremely charming petite Normandy gem! Beautifully landscaped lot, cathedral ceiling, detached garage, peek view, more.
643 Cragmont Avenue Open 2-4

[november 13th]

CONGRATULATIONS TO RED OAK REALTY'S TOP PRODUCERS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2005!

Top Team Producers: KATIE & MARK LEDERER
1891 Solano Avenue: GRACE BISHOP

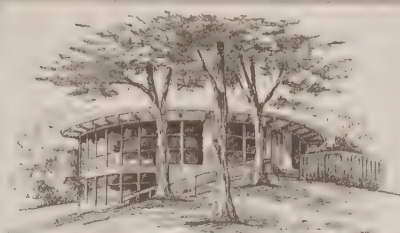


2099 Pleasant Valley Avenue: MERRITT LEVINE
2983 College Avenue: MARJORIE SPERBER

House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section

WELLS BENNETT REALTORS

Open Sunday November 13th, 2:00pm-4:30pm
Spectacular Views ~ 3399 Woodview Drive, Lafayette



Enjoy panoramic views from this fabulous circular home overlooking Mt. Diablo Valley. Serene and in a delightful setting this wonderful home with four bedrooms, and three baths awaits your magical touch.

Offered at \$1,200,000

Margaret Acevedo
510-485-7244
margaretacevedo@yahoo.com

Professionalism and progress since 1924 ~ A family tradition.

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 11/6 1-4 PM



5656 LA SALLE BLVD., OAKLAND

This 3+ bedrooms 2 bath home restored to original beauty. Vintage appliances and refinished hardwood flooring. Great room and dining room for entertaining with panoramic view. This home will take your breath away!

OFFERED AT \$1,000,000

SUSAN PERRY

Security Pacific RE
(510) 821-1585 Cell
(510) 662-8513 Direct



1754 Manzanita Drive
Offered at: \$1,695,000



Prudential
California Realty

Open Sunday 2-4:30

Exquisite elegance in the heart of the East Bay Hills. Dramatic, new 4-Bedroom/3 1/2-Bath construction of very privately located executive home with sweeping canyon and bay views. Spacious living and dining rooms flow effortlessly into the gourmet kitchen/great room combo, all on one level, merging perfectly for entertaining or family gatherings. Near East Bay Regional Park and easy access for commuters.



Leah Tounger
(510) 339-9290 Office
(510) 701-6497 Cell

JUST LISTED

Gorgeous Victorian Duplex



1034 & 1036 53rd Street, Oakland
Offered at \$699,000



Open Sunday
November 13th & 20th 2-4pm

This gorgeous Victorian duplex has an extensive remodeled owners unit. Some of the features of this charming duplex are: a new foundation, roof, exterior paint, central heat, dual pane windows, kitchen, oak floors and superb woodwork. The duplex has two bedrooms and one bath with a formal room. The lower unit is rented and Section 8. This duplex also has a wonderful large fenced-in garden and fixer garage. A gem!

Debra Alber
Claremont Office
Prudential California Realty
510-986-9532
debra.alber@prurealty.com



Prudential
California Realty

FEATURED HOMES



OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,649,000
5712 Country Club Dr. Spanish Med. 4 BR, 3 BA, Study, Rec. Rm, Magnificent Bay View!
Barbara Hopper (510) 846-0211



BERKELEY
Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,495,000
70 Vicente. Stunning contemporary w/fab. views. 3BR/2BA 2 fireplaces, formal D/R, great kitchen.
Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900



PIEDMONT
Sunday 2-5 \$1,200,000
1019 Ardmore. Gracious 4BR/3BA Traditional Formal D/R, Family rm, & huge back yard.
Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900



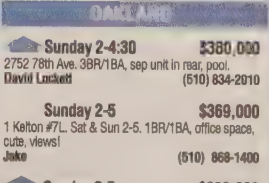
BERKELEY
Sunday 2-4:30 \$699,000
2104 Acton St. 1920's Duplex 1-bd, garages, yard, hardwood floors, FDR
Candice/David (510) 868-1400



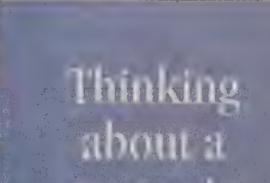
OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,695,000
1754 Manzanita Drive. Dramatic new 4BR/3BA Custom Ranch w/wonderful canyon views.
Leah Tounger (510) 701-6497



OAKLAND
Sunday 2-5 \$1,999,000
162 Beechwood Dr. 5BR, 4BA, Views. Spectacular home dream kitchen.
Beth Burger (510) 428-0900



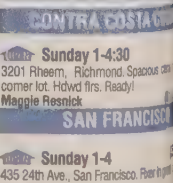
OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30 \$380,000
2752 78th Ave. 3BR/1BA, sep unit in rear, pool.
David Luckett (510) 834-2010



BERKELEY
Sunday 2-5 \$369,000
1 Kelton #7L. Sat & Sun 2-5. 1BR/1BA, office space, cute, views!
Juko (510) 868-1400



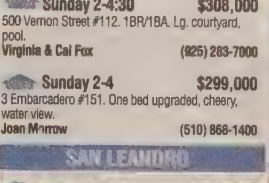
BERKELEY
Sunday 2-5 \$330,000
3768 Harrison St. #304. Large 1BR/1BA Top flr condo. Over 900+ sq. ft. Views. Pkg.
(415) 575-5599



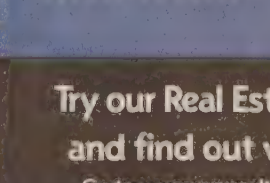
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Sunday 2-4:30 \$308,000
500 Vernon Street #112. 1BR/1BA. Lg. courtyard, pool.
Virginia & Cal Fox (925) 283-7000



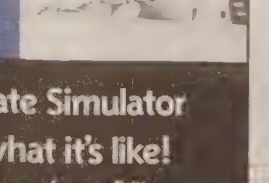
OAKLAND
Sunday 2-5 \$825,000
6912 Cotton - Unique, level-in 3BR/3BA Custom Ranch w/wonderful canyon views.
www.laurelstrand.com (510) 339-9290



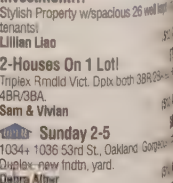
BERKELEY
Sunday 2-4 \$299,000
3 Embarcadero #151. One bed upgraded, cherry, water view.
Joan Morrow (510) 868-1400



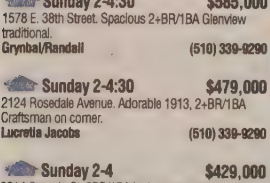
SAN LEANDRO
Sunday 2-4:30 \$849,000
773 Juana. 4BR/3BA. Exotic Granite kit, waterfall, gem!
Virginia & Cal Fox (925) 283-7000



BERKELEY
Sunday 2-4:30 \$395,000
2295 W. 133rd Ave. Spacious, remodeled condo @ Marina.
Marina Vayner (510) 868-1400



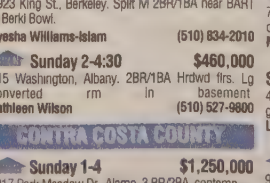
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Sunday 2-4:30 \$549,000
2923 King St., Berkeley. Split M 2BR/1BA near BART & Berkl Bowl.
Ayesha Williams-Islam (510) 834-2010



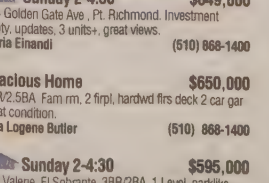
BERKELEY
Sunday 2-4:30 \$479,000
2124 Rosedale Avenue. Adorable 1913, 2+BR/1BA Craftsman on corner.
Lucretia Jacobs (510) 339-9290



BERKELEY
Sunday 2-4:30 \$799,000
888A Panoramic Place. Berkeley. 2 Fxer cottages on 1/3 acre lot! 1st Open.
Wendy Kashiwa (510) 868-1400



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Sunday 1-4 \$1,250,000
1917 Park Meadow Dr. Alamo. 3 BR/2BA, contemp ranch, light filled.
Caroline Slotemaker (510) 868-1400



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Sunday 2-4:30 \$595,000
985 Valene El Sobrante. 3BR/2BA, 1 Level, parklike yard on a cul de sac.
Amy Davis (510) 868-1400



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Sunday 12-5 \$565,000
1349 Cape Cod Way, Concord. 4BR/2BA, Charming Home. Great floorplan!
Casey Walwood (510) 834-2010

ALAMEDA 510-337-8470 BERKELEY REGIONAL 510-868-1400 CLAREMONT 510-425-0311 EL CERRILLO 510-527-7000 EL SOBRANTE 510-758-5437 GRAND LAKE 510-834-2010 MONTCLAIR 510-339-9290 PIEDMONT 510-428-0900

COLDWELL BANKER BERKELEY

BERKELEY Open Sunday 1-4



\$599,000
CURB APPEAL *PLUS*

1228 Stannage Ave. Lovingly maintained charmer w/light-filled spaces, hardwood floors and remodeled kitchen. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Large bonus room with Mexican-paver floors and access to the beautiful back garden. Pest report \$0 section 1.



MARILYN GARCIA, PhD
510.981.3035

BERKELEY Just Sold



\$650,000

IT'S STILL A GREAT TIME TO SELL

2748 California Street. Extensively remodeled with new stainless steel appliances, black granite counters and stone tile in kitchen, freshly refinished hardwood floors, and new carpet in the bedrooms. Lovely backyard.



KIMIKO TERRY
510.689.6896

OAKLAND Open Sat & Sun



\$299,000 & \$399,000
2 HOUSES ON 1 LOT

2228 & 2230 40th Ave. Two separate structures located on one sunny lot, one in front of another. These Craftsman bungalows include hardwood floors, built-ins & front porches. Front home is 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath, and rear is 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Think of the possibilities!



MAXINE MALBERG
510.981.3060

BERKELEY Don't Miss It!



\$3,250,000
ASIAN CRAFTSMAN FUSION

788 San Luis. 3 Bedrooms, 3 baths. Splendid grounds. Sun-room facing Bay & Golden Gate views. Living room with cathedral ceilings, lead glass windows, 4 fireplaces, meditation room, gym, hot tub with cold plunge. Patios, decks & chef's grill.



KIM & BARBARA MARIENTHAL
510.981.3020

BERKELEY Recently Sold



THOUSAND OAKS GEM

632 The Alameda. I represented the buyers who got a great deal on this beautiful, 3-bedroom, 2-bath home in exceptionally good condition. It has spectacular San Francisco & Golden Gate views, a large eat-in kitchen & a lovely fenced backyard.



MARILYN GARCIA, PhD
510.981.3035

BERKELEY Open Sunday 2-5



\$849,000
SPACIOUS TRADITIONAL WITH SPECTACULAR GARDEN!

1987 El Dorado. A rare find! Warm and inviting Traditional with a large magical garden! Smart 3-bedroom floor plan with incredibly spacious feel and quality upgrades. Super location close to Solano & Shattuck Shops!



NANCY REICHERT BURLEY
510.981.3018
www.NANSCAPE.com

HERCULES Open Sunday 1-4



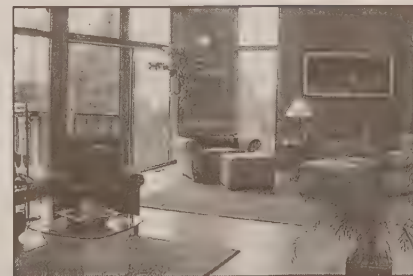
\$750,000
GORGEOUS VICTORIA BY THE BAY!

1015 Craftsman Drive. Features include grand living room with fireplace, dining area, plus room could be office/den, contemporary eat-in kitchen with modern appliances, master bedroom suite with large walk-in closet, 2-car garage, and backyard. Don't miss this one!



GENE DELLA MAGGIORA
510.981.3044
www.GDELLA.com

BERKELEY Sold



\$949,000
GLADLY REPRESENTED BUYER

1119 Keith Ave. This home has new owners. If you want to buy in the East Bay area, I would love to show you what it takes to successfully buy or sell a home in this market. As always... "The Right House at the Right Time for the Right Price."



BARB ALLENDORF
510.684.3468

KENSINGTON New Price



\$1,350,000
FABULOUS VIEWS

145 Lawson Rd. Views from every room! Don't miss this innovative and open plan with loads of space and flexibility. Can be duplex or large single family with two separate living areas. A great place to entertain or relax.



BARB ALLENDORF & TANIA BALAZS-GVISHI
510.981.3019/3048

CONTACT THE REAL ESTATE EDITOR AT 510-748-1655
OR E-MAIL DEVANOSKY@CCTIMES.COM.

Advertisers: To be considered for the Real Estate Focus (inside box) e-mail
text and photo to: ljessup@cctimes.com

5125 Leona Street, Oakland

Open Sunday 2-4:30pm



Gorgeous light and bright 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom Leona Heights Contemporary with vaulted ceilings, exceptional layout and open floor plan, hardwood floors, spacious cook's kitchen, majestic fireplace, and large great room perfect for entertaining and enjoying the wooded views! Downstairs family/rumpus room opens to a gigantic deck great for family fun and BBQ's. Landscaped side and back yards, with front access, and an abundance of lush greenery. Easy SF commute.

Asking Price \$729,000
Visit my website at www.NahidNassiri.com

MONTCLAIR



Nahid Nassiri
"Your Best Move"
510.339.4550 direct
510.339.8400 office

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A rare and splendid property in the Claremont hills. This wonderful home was designed by Edwin Snyder in 1935 and the gardens were designed by Thomas Church. Every detail is impeccable and the Bay views are magnificent. There are four bedrooms, three and one half baths and a very comfortable paneled library.

Offered at \$1,750,000

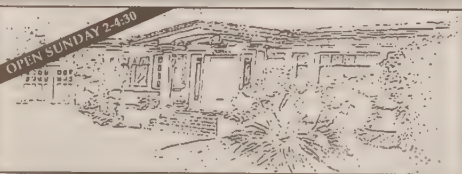


233 Stonewall Road
Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

BEBE McRAE
Office: 510.652.2133/415
bmcr@grubbco.com

CRAFTSMAN BEAUTY MUST SEE!!



4129 "G" Penniman Court, Oakland
Sears Craftsman Beauty
Quiet, Secure, Safe, Private, Secluded Court

This lovely home is in the heart of Oakland, yet you feel more like you're in a village. Located at the end of a secluded cul-de-sac, you will hear more crickets than cars. Besides a peaceful environment, the home has a new foundation, 7-year-old roof, newer paint in and out, hardwood floors, fireplace, 1 car garage w/expansion-conversion potential, and a light-filled, eat-in kitchen. No-through traffic, a quiet location.

Price \$489,000

Jeannette Muzima
& Helen Marshall
510.531.9888
510.209.9497
jmuze@kw.com

KELLER WILLIAMS
REALTY

- NEW FOUNDATION
- Updated electrical w/permits
- Newer sewer line
- Newer roof
- 1-car detached garage w storage area, conversion potential
- 2 bdms/1 bath
- Newer refrigerator, washer, dryer, dishwasher
- 2nd bedroom can be converted to dining room
- Pet friendly court
- Great location at end of a secure, peaceful, quiet, no-through street (cul-de-sac) private court



Miller Warneke Fourplex

469-462 Merritt, Oakland

Wonderful classic building, perfect for pied-a-tere, investment, or family compound. Each unit is unique, ranging up to 1700 sq. ft. Units include hardwood floors, Georgian fire-places, formal dining rooms, breakfast rooms, views. Oversized lot has beautiful mature landscaping. Each unit has walk-in-closets, off street parking and extra storage. Great Lake Merritt location.

Offered at \$1,800,000

Anne Bruff 510 594 7455 x200

Landmark Place

655 12th Street #113, Oakland



Stylish loft in the convenient City Center area of downtown Oakland, across from Preservation Park. Vary rare and highly desirable two story, one + bedroom, 2 bath floor plan. Stainless steel w/ granite kitchen. Many tasteful upgrades. Patios in front and back with beautiful tranquil fountain and courtyard.

Offered at \$485,000

Heidi Kearsley 510 594 7455 x204

ANNE BRUFF

& ASSOCIATES

510 594 7455

OPEN HOUSE 2 - 4:30

3949 Cerrito Ave., Oakland Piedmont Avenue

This dazzling home is perfectly nestled in a highly appreciated location blocks from Piedmont Ave. The spacious and delightful floor plan features: Three levels holding two bedrooms and two baths, a living room adorned with a sun lit vaulted ceiling and hardwood floors which top off the main level. The Master Bedroom Suite is on the third level, offering a feeling of retreat allowing comfort and coziness. Also enjoy the convenience of being near shopping, restaurants and transportation.



OFFERED AT \$599,950

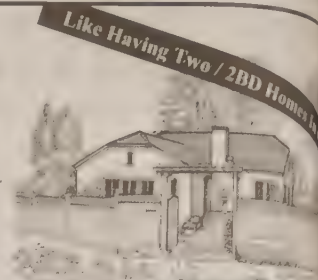


Reva Tolbert
COLDWELL BANKER
510-339-4761
www.camoves.com

COLDWELL
BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

www.northbrae.com

**Fabulous North
Berkeley Hills**
location with flexible floor
plan offering au-pair/in-
law potential! 4+BD/2BA
on two levels, classic
details & tastefully
executed updates. Two
levels of big decks with
filtered Bay views,
expansive lot with majestic
redwoods and terraced
garden areas. \$899,000



Call 510/526-4336 for more information

Northbrae Properties—1600 Hopkins Street, Berkeley 94707—510/526-4336—www.northbrae.com

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Built-in 1902, this turn of the century home has been enlarged and updated. There are four bedrooms, two bathrooms, a family room, lovely level garden, ample storage and off-street parking. Close to the "Gourmet Ghetto," this home is ideally located.

Offered at \$850,000



1312 Oxford Street
Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

SUSIE SCHEVILL
Office: 510.652.2133/444
sschevill@grubbco.com
SusieSchevill.com

5716 Florence Terrace, Oakland

Open Sunday 2-4:30pm



Enchanting and extremely private location, this 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom Storybook Traditional is complemented by multipaned windows with gorgeous hillside and wooded views, detailing such as country doors, wood cabinetry, classic brick and tile fireplace, and hardwood floors. Surrounded by the most incredible yards, huge patios, meandering paths, decks, mature trees, level lawn, and an abundance of lush greenery; it is a true nature lover's delight! Includes non-conforming in-law unit and is walking distance to Montclair Village and easy SF commute.

Asking Price \$649,000
Visit my website at www.NahidNassiri.com

1124 Hollywood #2, Oakland

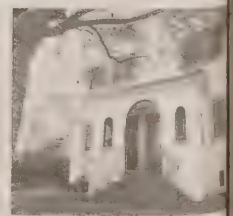
Open Sunday 2-4:30pm



Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom Upper Glenview condo in private four unit complex. Spacious living room has oversized sliding glass doors that open to a peaceful balcony retreat with hillside views! Light and bright kitchen features all the amenities, hardwood floors, and eating area with picture window. Both bedrooms are ample in size, feature wall to wall carpet, picture windows, and double closets. Master has adjoining bath with a shower over tub and sizable vanity for all your bath necessities. Close to shops, restaurants and SF commute.

Asking Price \$499,000
Visit my website at www.NahidNassiri.com

Gallagher
& Lindsey
REALTORS



1814 63rd Street - Berkeley - \$329,000

Open Sunday 2-4

One bedroom condo in desirable 20's style building. Great location - walk to BART, Farmer's Market and the Elmhurst College Avenue shops. Features include hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen, westerly views from top floor, large backyard and off street parking.

Michael Studebaker
REALTOR® CRS, SRES, & PRO

510-748-1129

1099 ARDMORE



Spacious and light Crocker traditional oversized lot! Grand foyer, stately room, formal dining room, family room, office, sunroom and large kitchen. Four bedrooms, including a suite with sitting room and dressing upstairs. Built in 1917, with many original details still in place. In an underground utilities, minutes from Grand Lake Shopping, transportation options, and more. With some TLC updating, this could be a jewel.

Offered at \$1,195,000

COLDWELL BANKER
PREVIEWS
INTERNATIONAL
californiamoves.com

Nayo
Family Partners
510-339-4728

Reva Tolbert
510-339-4761

Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide starting on B22.

Keeping track of the latest reale estate activity? Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section on D4.

JUST LISTED - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30PM

Lake Avenue, Piedmont
Move right in to this charming 3 bedroom, 2+ bath contemporary conveniently located near Piedmont Avenue. Split-in kitchen/family room, hardwood floors & crown moldings in the living & formal dining rooms, yard with deck & lawn.

Offered at \$1,039,000



Dian Hymer, CRS
Associate Broker
Previous Property Specialist
510-339-4777
Photo Tours At:
dianhymer.com



6822 EXETER DRIVE, OAKLAND



Warmth, Elegance & Fabulous Bay Views.

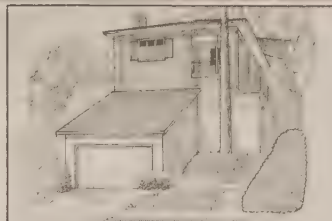
Dramatic 2-story with expansive rooms. Recent remodel includes generous use of slate, granite & travertine. "Cook" Kitchen & More. Private.

Call for private showing: \$1,158,000

KATHY MCCANN
Coldwell Banker
925 280-1333
Email: McCannk@aol.com



OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 PM



3976 Fruitvale - Upper Fruitvale

Cancel your gym membership! With this Upper Fruitvale/Lower Oakland contemporary w/split level styling, you get bungalow ambience, smart updates and three flights up to your cityside retreat. Live within blocks of a park with tennis courts and a public pool, an organic greengrocer and commute options. Well worth the climb

Offered at \$649,000

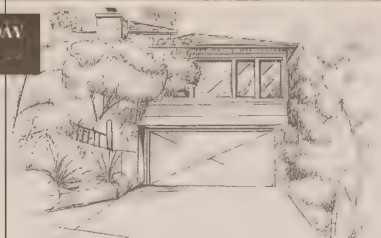


Nayo Family Partners
Lydia Nayo & Kelley Nayo-Clift
510-339-4728
californiamoves.com



Just Listed

OPEN SUNDAY
2-4:30

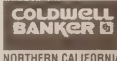


4647 Camden, Oakland

This is a home that will be appreciated by someone who loves a garden. Mid century bungalow featuring an open living area with random plank hardwood floors. Split level floor plan with 2 bedrooms upstairs. After you have discovered all the charm of the home step into this stunning garden and discover the vision of this talented owner, a professional horticulturist. More photos at www.4647camden.com

Offered at \$525,000

Claudia Bowman
510-339-4729



COLDWELL BANKER

www.CaliforniaMoves.com

Berkeley 510.486.1495 • Oakland 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

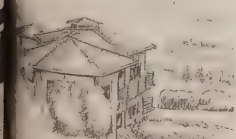
OAKLAND HILLS \$3,800,000
BR 2.5 BA Equestrian facility w/4
qtrs, 60 stalls for horses, 2
baths w/ covered. Main house is a
masterpiece w/2 kits. All redone.
Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700

BERKELEY HILLS \$3,250,000
BR 3 BA Asian Craftsman fusion. LV
w/cathedral ceilings, splendid
grounds, gym, Bay & GG views.
Jim & Barbara 510.486.1495

PARAYETTE \$2,975,000
BR 5.5 BA Modern Craftsman.
Upgraded by J Wright. Pool, over .5 acre
lot. www.4007Natasha.com
Jim & Barbara 510.486.1495

MONTCLAIR \$1,450,000
Midmont side Montclair. 4 BR 4 BA
built in 2003. 30-ft foyer, grand
curved, epicurean kitchen, maple
cabinets, MBS w/ spa bath.
www.5555Moraga.com
Julie Joyce 510.339.4700

RICHMOND \$399,000
BR 3 BA Handyman special: lg, bright
eat-in kit, DR, LR w/FRPL, sun porch,
garage, 2-car grg.
Lana Knight 510.486.1495



KENSINGTON \$1,350,000
BR 4 BA VIEWS! Great 2 lvl design,
approx 3900 sq.ft. Great area &
schools. Ready to move in.
Web Allendorf/Tania Balazs-Gvishi
510.486.1495

OPEN HOUSES

MONTCLAIR \$1,600,000
BR 3 BA Arrowhead
Sun 1 - 4
BR 3.5 BA New construction. Grmt
w/SS appliances & Alder cabinets,
lrg LR/DR, fam rm, master ste.
David Eckert 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES



EL CERRITO \$1,500,000
7304 Pebble Beach Dr Sun 2 - 4:30
5 BR 5 BA Unique home: 5000 sq ft,
10,000 + lot. Pool. Views: SF GG &
golf course. Grand scale.
Cheryl Cahn 510.486.1495



OAKLAND \$1,495,000
11439 Lochard Sun 1:30 - 4
6 BR 3.5 BA Breathtaking SF vu
setting. Elegant Chabot Hglds trdnrl.
Grt lawns, 3 car gar, islnd kitch.
Diana Kay 510.486.1495



MONTCLAIR \$1,475,000
175 Villanova Sun 1 - 5
4 BR 3.5 BA Hilltop retreat! Spanish
Med w/ style! Fab kit, tranquil vistas,
lvl yrd, great flr plan.
Ellen Lancaster/Ruby Ng 510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR \$1,425,000
6267 Rutland Rd Sun 1 - 4
3 BR 3.5 BA Revel in style in this
contempo with city-light views.
Family room.
David Eckert 510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR \$1,295,000
6171 Rutland Rd Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3 BA Indoor/outdoor living from
fam rm & kit serene setting on large
parcel.
Joan Duffield 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,195,000
1099 Ardmore Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3.5 BA Stately Crocker
traditional on oversized lot. Needs
some TLC to become an absolute
jewel.
Lydia Nayo
Karen Lum 510.339.4700

OAKLAND HILLS \$1,180,000
125 Crestmont Sun 1 - 4
4 BR 3.5 BA New construction w/
HUGE views. Gourmet kit w/custom
cabinetry, granite & SS. Lavish MBS.
Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700

BERKELEY HILLS \$1,125,000
781 Spruce Sun 2 - 4
4 BR 3 BA Totally remod mid century
home. Bay view. Hdwd, lrg fam rm, 2
car gar, huge deck. Lrg lot.
Tania Balazs-Gvishi 510.486.1495



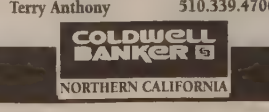
PIEDMONT \$1,039,000
7 Lake Ave Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2.5 BA Move right in. Frml
dining, master suite, eat-in/kitchen
family room opens to deck/yard.
Dian Hymer 510.339.4700

SAN FRANCISCO \$895,000
12 Buena Vista Rd Sat/Sun 1 - 4
4 BR 3 BA SSF: 1997 Eleg Medit w/
nice upgrades surrounded by fine
homes.
Tiffany Stechschulte 510.339.4700

BERKELEY \$849,000
1987 El Dorado Sun 2 - 5
3 BR 1 BA Warm, inviting Traditional
w/magical garden! Quality Renovations!
Pics at www.nanscape.com
Nancy Reichert 510.486.1495

OAKLAND \$839,000
4370 Whittle Sun 1 - 4
3 BR 3 BA Urban oasis w/huge views.
Soaring cathedral ceiling in grt rm.
Media rm. w/surround sound.
Becky Andersen 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$799,000
4630 San Sebastian Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA Full Finished Basement.
Upper Glenview. To see photos go to:
www.4630sansebastian.com
CJ Boydston 510.339.4700



OPEN HOUSES

BERKELEY \$795,000
2938 Shasta Road Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Wonderful Bay & Mt. Tam
views. Lrg back yard w/upslope &
patio area. New roof.
Barbara Hardacre 510.339.4700



OAKMORE \$750,000
3933 Oakmore Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Lovely home on a lg lot
features hdwd flrs, beamed ceilings,
fml DR, rumpus & breakfast rm.
Liat Bostick 510.339.4700

HERCULES \$750,000
1015 Craftsman Dr Sat/Sun 1 - 4
3 BR 2.5 BA Victoria By the Bay!
Upgraded KIT, LR w/FRPL, MSTR BD,
2-car garage, nr shops & trans.
Gene Della Maggiora 510.486.1495

LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$664,000
2965 Carlsen St. Sun 2 - 5
3+ BR 3 BA Vu home lite-fill &
spacious. Room for All/Everything.
Lovely bkrd, HDWD, FP, sun porch.
Rachel Baller 510.339.4700

SOUTH BERKELEY \$649,000
3216 Ellis Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Renovated Victorian.
Lovely bkrd, FDR/LR, high ceilings,
sep entry dwnstrs.
Noni Robinson 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$599,950
3949 Cerrito Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA Hardwood Floors and
Carpet. Vaulted Ceiling/Skylight
Disclosures Packets Available.
Reva Tolbert 510.339.4700



BERKELEY \$599,000
1228 Stannage Ave Sun 1 - 4
2 BR 1.5 BA Great Curb Appeal &
even better inside! Lots of light, big
plus rm, beaut. private garden.
Marilyn Garcia 510.486.1495

OPEN HOUSES

ALAMEDA \$569,000
1165 Island Dr Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2.5 BA Sunny and spacious Bay
Farm townhouse located near pool,
clubhouse, golfing and more!
Leslie Wei/James Brown 510.339.4700

HAYWARD \$565,000
25481 Calaroga Sun 1 - 4
3 BR 2 BA Charming approx 1400 sq ft
home w/garage nr Chabot College &
freeway access. Come see!
Kimiko Terry
Sebastian Ages 510.486.1495

MORAGA \$529,000
2135 Ascot Dr 17 Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA
George Karsant 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$525,000
4647 Camden St Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1.5 BA 1940's split level
bungalow featuring an open floor plan
and stunning garden.
Claudia Bowman 510.339.4700

MAXWELL PARK \$520,000
5456 Brookdale Sun 1:30 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA Charming Craftsman
Shingle. Prepare to fall in love w/this
lovely home.
CJ Boydston 510.339.4700

TEMESCAL \$499,000
527 43rd St Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA Ready for the holidays!
Nearby BART/shops! Eat-in kit, DR,
LR, garden, patio & studio.
Victor Ratto 510.339.4700

DAN JOY \$499,000
670 Appgar Sat/Sun 2 - 4
4 BR 2 BA Duplex in N. Oakland, fixer
w/2bed/1ba units. Top unit remodeled.
Near BART & restaurants.
Azaria Berhane 510.486.1495

OAKLAND \$399,000
2230 40th Ave Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA 1 of 2 sep. structure
Craftsman condos. HDWD, blt-ins,
prch, grg, lndry area, sm sunny yd.
Maxine Malberg 510.486.1495

OAKLAND \$299,000
2228 40th Ave Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
1 BR 1 BA 1 of 2 sep. structure
Craftsman condos. Hrdwd, blt-ins,
porch, garage, sm yrd, lndry area.
Maxine Malberg 510.486.1495



1495 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley

6137 La Salle Avenue, Oakland

Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section. The first place to look when looking for a new home.

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Private courtyard entry sets the tone for this two+++ bedroom, two and one half bath, exquisitely designed and detailed home in the Oakland Hills. Living areas flow onto huge decks. Unique quality details, professional dance studio, perfectly appointed home office. A stunning retreat.

Offered at \$1,460,000



2223 Tunnel Road
Oakland Hills

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

CAROLYN JONES
Office: 510.652.2133/439
cjones@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A highly desirable Upper Rockridge home with original detailing and modern conveniences. San Francisco City and Bay views, updated kitchen and bath. Separate office with full bath. Two bedrooms and one full bath.

Offered at \$699,000



232 Modoc Avenue
Rockridge

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

ADAM BETTA
Office: 510.339.0400/251
abetta@grubbco.com



PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2-4:30PM

4716 Reinhardt Drive, Oakland ~ Offered at \$629,000

This comfortable sun-filled Silvercrest manufactured home is located in a very popular area of Oakland. This exceptional home features a garden setting and wooded hill views.



- Sparkling kitchen with ample counter and cabinet space
- Lovely breakfast/dining room off kitchen with beautiful chandelier
- Spacious comfortable living room with skylights and bay windows
- Master bath features large bath and oversized step in shower



Diane E. McCan
510.338.1352

REDWOOD HEIGHTS &
LAUREL DISTRICT SPECIALIST
www.dianemccan.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2-4:30PM

4123 Eastlake Avenue, Oakland ~ Offered at \$769,500



This lovely, well cared for custom built home is located in the popular Redwood Heights area. This exceptional home features a patio garden setting with spectacular San Francisco Bay and Mt. Tam views.

- Beautifully updated kitchen with breakfast area
- Deck off living room with spectacular views of Mt. Tam & San Francisco
- Four full bedrooms and three full updated baths
- Spacious family room with adjoining recreation room



Diane Earl McCan
510.338.1352

www.pacunion.com



Cindy Houts
510.338.1364

KORMAN & NG

real estate services

North Oakland Victorian

866 61st Street, Oakland



OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, NOV. 13th
2:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M. 2+ BR, 1 BA, Yard
Contact: Miriam Ng • (510) 845-8336

Charming Victorian 2+ BR, 1 BA on the East and Oakland border. Decorator perfect with original details including a classic Weber stove. Renovated with new dual pane windows, new copper plumbing and updated electrical. Back Yard with raised planting beds for a farmer. Fully fenced lawn area for children to play. Close to Berkeley Bowl & Ashby Ave.

Offered at: \$399,000

For more details, go to www.kormanandng.com

2025 ROSE STREET, BERKELEY, CA 94709

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1-5PM

Charming 3 bedroom, Craftsman home located in the Lake Merritt area has lovely architectural details. Features include updated kitchen with breakfast area, formal dining room, hardwood floors, fireplace in living room and much more. Cozy sunroom and large deck off master bedroom have views of downtown Oakland skyline. Near farmers Market, restaurants, shopping & theater.



Carol Crosby
415.760.5026

435 Hanover Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$659,000

A sampling of our current listings:

San Pablo

Cute 3bd/1ba home -- hardwood floors, new double pane windows, tiled kitchen and bath. Roof is 5 years old. White picket fence front yard and many fruit trees in backyard \$425,000

San Francisco -- Mission

Beautiful 3-unit Edwardian. 2 2bd units, wonderfully updated 3bd top floor unit with views to Twin Peaks. Ideal investment or as TICs (two units vacant at COE). \$1,795,000

Mill Valley

Charming 4 bd, 1 ba home in popular Sycamore Park close to schools, rec center, downtown & more. Refinished floors and new paint inside and outside facade. Use as is or bring your imagination. There's lots of potential. \$950,000



Prudential
California Realty

415-762-9111

2241 Market St. San Francisco
2200 Union St. San Francisco

and our newest location

221 Gaiadonia St. Sausalito



715 Washington, Albany
OPEN SAT & SUN
2-4 PM

This 2+ bedroom/1+ bath home offers old-world charm. Its features include random plank hardwood floors, a Wedgwood stove, and a fireplace. It even has extra space: a large converted room with an extra bath (without permits) in the basement that could be a home office or family room. Take advantage of Albany schools with this wonderful home!

\$460,000



Offered by
KATHLEEN WILSON
(510) 919-1712
Kathleen.wilson@prurealty.com

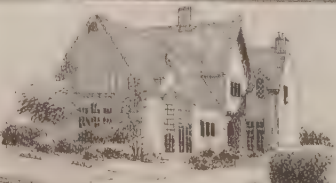
To view photos, go to:
www.eastbayhomeguide.com



PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2-4:30PM



Grand and gracious English Tudor with significant architectural details. Features an elegant living room and dining room, remodeled kitchen/family room, 3 bedrooms plus den, 2.5 baths, a rooftop deck to enjoy San Francisco views. Beautiful gardens plus level areas for bikes and playing games.



Nancy Rothman
510.339.2169 x 6209

9 Wyngaard Avenue,
Piedmont

Offered at \$2,195,000

www.NancyRothman.com
www.pacunion.com



9050 Broadway Terrace
Offered at \$1,695,000
SOLD OVERASKING



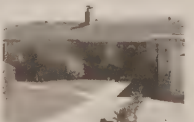
9078 Broadway Terrace
Offered at \$1,195,000
SOLD OVERASKING



6050 Contra Costa Road
Offered at \$1,399,000
SOLD OVERASKING



6833 Elverton Drive
Offered at \$1,300,000
SOLD OVERASKING



211 Sequoyah View Road
Offered at \$895,000
SOLD AT ASKING



5927 Zinn Drive
Offered at \$1,295,000
SOLD OVERASKING



27 Observation Place
Offered at \$1,649,000
SOLD OVERASKING*



6471 Ascot Drive
Offered at \$949,000
SOLD OVERASKING*



Dee Knowland
510.338.1318
www.DeeKnowlandRealty.com
www.pacunion.com
*Represented the Buyer



DIET'S FALL WRAP-UP

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW TEMESCAL LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2-4:30PM



Sheila Gallagher
510.338.1383

436 49th Street, Oakland
Offered at \$789,000

This wonderful Prairie style duplex is located in the popular Temescal neighborhood, close to shopping, restaurants and transportation. A myriad of authentic details graces each well maintained, spacious unit. Each unit has 2BR/1BA, formal living and dining rooms, eat-in kitchen, parking, storage and laundry.

NEW GLENVIEW LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2-4:30PM



4342 Leach Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$859,000

This stunning craftsman with 4BR/2BA and city views is located in the desirable Glenview neighborhood. Enjoy its spacious living room with built-ins and brick fireplace. Its spectacular dining room boasts boxbeam ceilings, period built-ins and a second brick fireplace. The spacious kitchen with adjoining family area and convenient laundry facilities leads to a level out, beautifully landscaped back garden. To view photos of this exquisite home, visit www.4342LeachOakland.com.

NEW GLENVIEW LISTING OPEN SAT & SUN, NOVEMBER 12, 2-4:30 & 13, 2-5PM



1664 Miami Court, Oakland
Offered at \$569,000

This bright, 2-story craftsman home is located in the popular Glenview neighborhood. Still possessing much of its original charm, this home has 3BR, a sunroom, 1.25BA, a formal dining room, a cute breakfast nook, hardwood floors, wonderful windows and a lovely backyard. Whether curled up reading a book in the sunny living room or enjoying the nearby Glenview shops and restaurants, you'll find that this is a really special home.

BERKELEY'S THOUSAND OAKS OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2-4PM



740 Ensenada Avenue, Berkeley
Call for price

This darling 2BR/1BA bungalow is located in the desirable Thousand Oaks neighborhood, just blocks north of Solano Avenue's shops and eateries! Details include hardwood floors, a wood-burning fireplace, a vintage-style kitchen with built-in breakfast nook, a view of the hills from the deck, yard and garden!

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30



ROCKRIDGE \$2,800,000
4335 MANCHESTER AVE.

Wonderful Traditional rebuilt after the "fire" 4+1BR/4+1BA, rec room, possible antique, magnificent SF/bay views. Fabulous gardens designed by Harland Hand. Francis Heath x1357



MONTCLAIR \$949,000
6801 GUNN DR.

Spectacular Montclair contemporary. Dramatic and attractive with large level yard. 4+BR/3BA, family room, large deck. Joan E. Hause x1358



OAKLAND HILLS \$799,000
13001 BROOKPARK RD. (Open 2-5)

Charming all-level 4BR/2BA home in Parkridge Estates. Large .25+/- acre corner lot near Regional Parks & hiking trails. Updated kitchen & baths, formal dining. Vicki Woodhead x1334



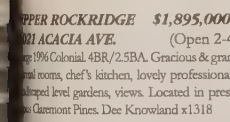
SEQUOYAH HILLS \$729,000
4295 SEQUOYAH RD.

Spacious all-level 4BR/3BA ranch home on useable lot w/beautiful golf course outlooks. Kitchen/family room, wonderful indoor/outdoor spaces. Sandi Klemmer x1314



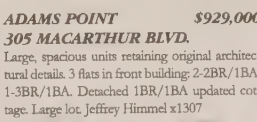
OAKLAND \$569,000
7606 VALENTINE ST.

Gardener's delight! Charming Traditional built in 1938. 2BR/1BA w/additional sun room, refinished hardwood floors, newer kitchen, deck & large yard with pond. Kathy Flynn x1317



ROCKRIDGE \$1,895,000
4021 ACACIA AVE. (Open 2-4)

1996 Colonial 4BR/2.5BA. Gracious & grand formal rooms, chef's kitchen, lovely professionally landscaped level gardens, views. Located in prestigious Garmon Pines. Dee Knowland x1318



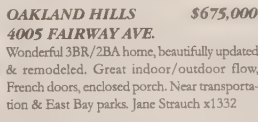
ADAMS POINT \$929,000
305 MACARTHUR BLVD.

Large, spacious units retaining original architectural details. 3 flats in front building: 2-2BR/1BA, 1-3BR/1BA. Detached 1BR/1BA updated cottage. Large lot. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$789,500
3630 VICTOR AVE.

Circa 1930s Tudor w/spectacular living room & formal dining room. 4BR/2BA, large eat-in kitchen, two extra plus rooms, 2-car tandem garage. Rear yard. Kathleen Callahan x1343



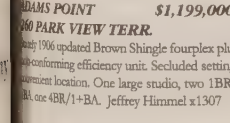
HADDON HILL \$649,000
908-906 PROSPECT AVE.

Top-notch Haddon Hill duplex on a coveted street. Sunny floor plans in pristine condition. Hardwood floors, original details. Secluded garden & patio. Ashley O'Neill x1368



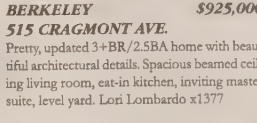
BERKELEY \$549,000
2814 HILLEGASS AVE. #C2

New Listing! Spacious 2BR/2BA condo in covered Elwood location. Fresh paint & carpet. Open floor plan overlooking gardens. Secluded balcony. Lee Jacobson x1309



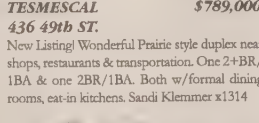
ADAMS POINT \$1,199,000
700 PARK VIEW TERR.

1906 updated Brown Shingle fourplex plus 1000-sq-ft efficiency unit. Secluded setting, convenient location. One large studio, two 1BR/1BA, one 4BR/1+BA. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



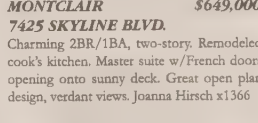
BERKELEY \$925,000
515 Cragmont Ave.

Pretty, updated 3+BR/2.5BA home with beautiful architectural details. Spacious beamed ceiling living room, eat-in kitchen, inviting master suite, level yard. Lori Lombardo x1377



TESMESCAL \$789,000
436 49th ST.

New Listing! Wonderful Prairie style duplex near shops, restaurants & transportation. One 2+BR/1BA & one 2BR/1BA. Both w/formal dining rooms, eat-in kitchens. Sandi Klemmer x1314



MONTCLAIR \$649,000
7425 SKYLINE BLVD.

Charming 2BR/1BA, two-story. Remodeled cook's kitchen. Master suite w/French doors opening onto sunny deck. Great open plan design, verdant views. Joanna Hirsch x1366



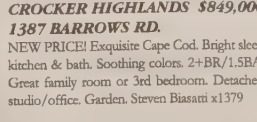
REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$629,000
4716 REINHARDT DR.

Charming and immaculate single level 3BR/2BA home surrounded by lush landscaping, fruit trees and climbing roses. Diane E. McCan x1352



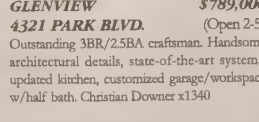
ROCKRIDGE \$1,050,000
4039 OCEAN VIEW DR. (Open 2-4)

1910s mid-century 3BR/2.5BA charmer with gracious entry & lush secret garden. Decks w/parade view, living room w/fireplace, walls of glass. Dee Knowland x1318



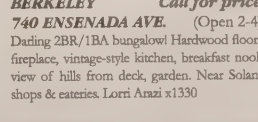
GLENVIEW \$859,000
4342 LEACH AVE.

New Listing! Stunning 4BR/2BA craftsman. Spacious living room w/fireplace & built-ins. Formal dining room w/2nd fireplace & built-ins. Beautiful garden. Sheila Gallagher x1383



GLENVIEW \$789,000
4321 PARK BLVD. (Open 2-5)

Outstanding 3BR/2.5BA craftsman. Handsome architectural details, state-of-the-art systems, updated kitchen, customized garage/workspace w/half bath. Christian Downer x1340



BERKELEY Call for price!
740 ENSENADA AVE. (Open 2-4)

Darling 2BR/1BA bungalow! Hardwood floors, fireplace, vintage-style kitchen, breakfast nook, view of hills from deck, garden. Near Solano shops & eateries. Lori Anzi x1330



MAXWELL PARK \$535,000
4505 WALNUT ST. (Open 2-4)

Sweet and spacious 1925 craftsman with lots of light, handsome kitchen & bath. 3BR or 2BR + study, laundry, garage, basement, fenced back yard. Cindy Houts x1364



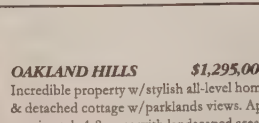
ROCKRIDGE \$599,000
5928 LAIRD AVE.

Freshly renovated 2BR/2BA condo. Lots of upgrades. Fireplace in living room. Deck opens to master bedroom & living/dining area. End unit w/easy access to garage. Martha Holstlaw x1312

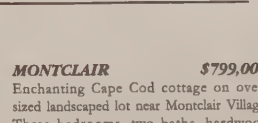


REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$739,000
910 ST. ANDREWS DR. (Open 1-4)

Wonderful sun-filled 3BR/2BA home is gorgeous inside & out! Spectacular views of SF, bay & Mt. Tam. Formal dining room, sparkling updated kitchen, spacious family room/den. Convenient location. Carla Buffington x1367



ROCKRIDGE/ELMWOOD \$1,150,000
Investor opportunity! Updated 6 unit building located between Rockridge & Elmwood. Convenient to UC Berkeley, BART, College & Telegraph Ave. shopping & restaurants. Call agent for showing times. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



PIEDMONT \$1,449,000
Gorgeous Mediterranean villa set on beautifully landscaped grounds. 3 bedroom suites, 3BA, beautiful original details, eat-in chef's kitchen, park-like terraces & gardens. Fritz Hochfeller x1348



PIEDMONT \$5,250,000
Private gates lead to a classic English Tudor on approximately 1.4 useable acres. Public rooms include a ballroom and library. 7++ bedrooms, seven and one half baths. A one of a kind opportunity. Robyn Mohr x1310

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Realtor

5 SANDERLING CT., ALAMEDA
5-year-old SFR in a quiet and convenient community, 3 bed 2.5 bath, 2 car garage, hardwood floors, landscaped yard, custom window treatment, high ceilings. Walk to all conveniences. Very motivated seller. Open Sun 1-4.

\$685,000



3915 PATTERSON AVE., OAKLAND
Recently upgraded & expanded 3 bed 2 bath home with new hardwood floors, granite kitchen countertop, maple cabinets. All doors are new. Enclosed porch added more space. Secured and private backyard w/ deck. Great area & walk to school, shops and transportation. Can be used as TWO units. Open Sat & Sun 1-4

\$697,000



2419 E 20TH ST., OAKLAND
Completely renovated home with new granite kitchen countertops & appliances, Pergo floors, recessed lighting, new bathrooms & fixtures. Top level 3 bed 1.5 bath w/ kitchen, main level is 2 bed 1.5 bath w/ kitchen. Can be used as one big house or TWO units. Open Sat & Sun 1-4

\$635,000



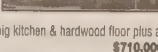
3111 LA CAMPANIA, BAY FARM OF ALAMEDA
Beautiful 4 bed 2.5 bath townhome in Castas on Bay Farm. Updated kitchen & bath, landscaped courtyard, new double pane windows, ceiling fans and large living room. 2 car garage

\$565,000



1125 BISHOP, EAST END OF ALAMEDA
4 bed 2 bath home on a quiet street. Sunny living room, big kitchen & hardwood floor plus a huge basement.

\$710,000



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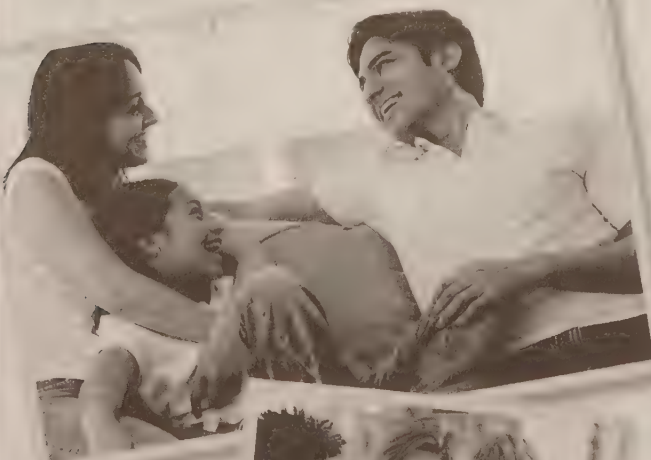
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3 PREVIEW OPENINGS THIS WEEKEND



New schools are within walking distance



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2 to 3 bedrooms: Up to 1,857 sq. ft.
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PIEDMONT

OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30

22 MESA AVENUE \$2,690,000

This wonderful central Piedmont traditional features 5BR upstairs, a great family room off the kitchen & level out to the garden. Anian Tunney & Jean Simmons

70 SOMERSET ROAD \$1,950,000

Lovely Piedmont Hills home w/great views over the trees to the Bay. Marvellous pool & deck. 5BR/4.5BA + family room. Updated kitchen & baths. Michelle Winchester

51 LANE COURT \$1,895,000

Expansive San Francisco views from every room hosts elegant gracious living. Formal living room & dining room w/deck access. Master suite on main level & spectacular updated kitchen. Sandra Vogl

6040 CONTRA COSTA RD. \$1,675,000

Exceptional quality, design & details in this Upper Rockridge Mediterranean. 4BR/3.5BA (including 2 suites), hardwood floors, kitchen/family room, views & location! Hillcrest School District. Tricia Swift

2223 TUNNEL ROAD \$1,460,000

Private & elegant 2BR/3BA. Living areas flow onto huge decks. Perfectly appointed home office, dance studio, unique quality details with a city view. Carolyn Jones

6333 FAIRLANE DRIVE \$1,395,000

Beautifully renovated home w/panoramic city views. Updated kitchen w/patio access & garden. Master suite on main level. Bonus room. 3BR/2BA. Angela Wei Grubb

6125 PINWOOD ROAD \$1,390,000

Custom Craftsman featuring 5BR/4BA. Distinctive fusion of classic detailing and modern amenities. Expansive level yard! Adam Betta

1053 SUNNYHILLS ROAD \$1,350,000

A lovely home on a beautiful Crocker Highlands street! 4 large BR incl. master suite. Spacious living room w/ fireplace. Redesigned eat-in kitchen. Anthony Riggins

14370 SKYLINE BLVD. \$1,239,000

Elegant architectural details, the finest materials & spectacular Bay views await you in this 3BR/2.5BA home, just remodeled. Chef's kitchen, new baths, fabulous master suite & private level garden. Dana Cohen

1871 TRESTLE GLEN RD. \$1,350,000

Miller-Warneke's "The Chateau", built in 1929 w/fine craftsmanship. 4BR/3BA, updated kitchen & baths. Family room w/level access to garden patio. Linda McClain

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30

13300 SKYLINE BLVD. \$1,180,000

This Hillcrest Estates home offers serene privacy on an oversized lot. 4BR/3BA, beautiful chef's kitchen w/butcher block island Separate studio & stable. Kurt Buchholz

1027 PARK LANE \$1,175,000

Charming Monterey Colonial! 4BR/3BA, spacious living room w/vaulted ceiling & deck, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, family room w/fireplace & French doors to patio, garden & spa. Nancy Lehrkind

6380 WOOD DRIVE \$1,175,000

Fabulous custom-built beauty remodeled throughout. Chef's kitchen w/designer appliances & adjacent family room opens level out to private patio. 2 master suites w/ exquisite baths. Close to Montclair Village. Karen Starr

2 HUMPHREY PLACE \$1,095,000

Spacious & gracious traditional. Formal dining, hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen w/granite counters, island & adjacent family room opening to patio garden. Master retreat w/fireplace & office. Judy Cain

2207 DAMUTH STREET \$895,000

Great Dimond District four-plex. Four townhouse style 2BR/1.5BA units. One unit vacant. Separate meters. Covered parking. Laundry room w/solar heat. Ed Kuo

2301 IVY DRIVE \$850,000

Handsome five-unit Spanish building. 2BR owner's unit vacant. 4 - spacious 1BR units w/dining rooms. Lots of charm & details. Great street. 4-garages. Ed Kuo

5437 SHAFTER AVENUE \$839,000

Jazzy Rockridge home close to Market Hall & BART. 3BR/1BA, large public rooms & huge lower level. Fabulous new studio w/bath - great office. Artistic & stylish. Faye Keogh

835 MANDANA BLVD. \$775,000

Updated Mediterranean. 3BR/1BA. Hardwood floors; classic architecture; dining room w/built-ins. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Sunny garden. Anthony Riggins

15 ARROYO AVENUE \$850,000

Easy all level living! Gracious light-filled 3BR/2BA w/ spacious rooms, low-maintenance gardens & wonderful indoor-outdoor flow. Close to shops. The Ratcliffes

46 OLIVE AVENUE \$849,000

Delightful 3BR/2BA Craftsman w/vintage charm & the amenities of careful renovation. Lovely new kitchen & bath. Study/den overlooks garden. Carol Brown

232 MODOC AVENUE \$699,000

Highly desirable Upper Rockridge home w/original detailing & modern conveniences. SF & Bay views. 2BR/1BA. Terraced garden w/stone patio. Adam Betta

5655 MASONIC AVENUE \$739,000

Well located w/significant privacy. Plantation shutters & hardwood floors. New custom kitchen & bath. Large rampus w/fireplace. Additional space for artist studio/home office. Debra J. Dryden

95 CLAREWOOD LANE \$659,000

Private 2BR/2.5BA & separate study/den. Living room w/ soaring ceilings, fireplace & opens onto deck. Hardwood floors. Remodeled kitchen & baths. Pool & club house. Steps to SF transportation & Village Mkt. Mavis Delacroix

260 CALDECOTT #124 \$509,000

A charming Parkwoods Condominium w/modern amenities & stylish architecture. This Montclair model features 2BR/2BA, excellent kitchen, hardwood floors & is conveniently located. Adam Betta

6601 DEAKIN STREET \$499,000

Charming bungalow. Many original details & built-ins intact. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Perfect location. Close to BART & Rockridge shops. Hope Broderick

5326 TRASK STREET \$479,000

The perfect starter home! Charm abounds in this vintage bungalow. Updated hip kitchen & bath. New fireplace, formal dining room w/built-ins. Large enclosed garden for play & entertaining. 2BR/1BA. Hope Broderick

4101 HOWE STREET #304 \$459,000

Bright and spacious 2BR/2BA condominium in sought-after building just steps away from all that Piedmont Avenue has to offer. Steve Michaelides

BERKELEY, KENSINGTON & ALBANY - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30

1010 CRAGMONT AVE. \$3,700,000

1997 home plus 1916 triplex on spectacular & very spacious landscaped grounds! Main house: 3BR/3.5BA; Townhouse #1: 3+BR/2BA; #2: 2+BR/1BA; #3: 1+BR/1BA. A world of its own! Bebe McRae

1039 AMITO DRIVE \$1,750,000

An absolutely beautiful 4BR/4.5BA w/formal dining, large family room or au-pair quarters opening to terraced gardens, attached 2-car garage & Bay views! Masterful craftsmanship is evident throughout. Bebe McRae

36,38,40 DOMINGO AVE. \$1,700,000

The Webster Family Tri-plex. Three beautifully detailed units in our prime, sunny Banana Belt location. Never before offered for sale. Paul Templeton/Faye Keogh

796 HILLSIDE AVENUE \$995,000

ALBANY. A spacious 4BR/3BA (incl. generous master suite). Large kitchen, dramatic stone fireplace & peek of the Bay views. Attached 2-car garage & more. Located in top rated Albany school district. Anne Feste

1312 OXFORD STREET \$850,000

This turn of the century bungalow has been expanded & renovated. There are 4BR/2BA, family room, loads of storage & large level garden. Susie Schevill

77 STRATFORD ROAD \$799,000

KENSINGTON. 1920's Tudor w/the storybook charm of Carmel. Rich architectural details. 3BR/1.5BA. Grand scale formal rooms, beautiful SF Bay views. Delightful deck & garden. Detached garden office. Ford/Plowright

467 VERMONT AVENUE \$749,000

Classic 1930's traditional, Bay views & exceptional neighborhood. 2BR/1BA + office, inviting sunny living room & dining room. Sweeping front porch & great garden. Close to Kensington Village. Ruth Frassetto

1305 HENRY STREET #A \$705,000

Contemporary townhouse w/views of Mt Tam & peeks of the Bay. Dramatic 2-story architecture w/open floorplan. High ceilings, fireplace, skylights, terraces. 2BR/2.5BA. Near Gourmet Ghetto & UC. Chris Cohn

NORTH BERKELEY HILLS \$1,950,000

This exceptional home offers maximum privacy & remarkable spaces! 3BR/3BA + studio apartment, office family room & decks w/hot tub. B. McRae/P. Templeton

ELMWOOD CLASSIC \$1,750,000

Beautiful brown shingle on a double lot! 5BR/5.5BA, formal dining room, family room opening to sunny deck & level garden. Close to shops & BART! Bebe McRae

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,750,000

A rare & splendid home designed by Edwin Snyder & gardens by Thomas Church. Magnificent Bay views. 4BR/3.5BA, paneled library. Bebe McRae

SPECTACULAR VIEWS! \$1,495,000

Spectacular views of bridges, Bay & SF. Multiple deck & patios. 4BR + nursery/3.5BA; hardwood floors. Detached home office. Easy access to campus. Tricia Swift

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,450,000

Luxury living w/maximum privacy! Architect designed 3+BR/3.5BA retreat above the Claremont Hotel. 3-car garage, canyon views, exceptional finishes! Bebe McRae

INVESTMENT PROPERTY \$1,295,000

Great Dimond neighborhood investment building w/ plenty of income potential. Near Dimond Park, school & shops. Separate meters. Ed Kuo

STYLISH CONTEMPORARY \$1,295,000

Enjoy the updated, eat-in kitchen, expansive deck w/ Hill & Bay views & wood-paneled dining room. Level garden; 3BR/3BA; finished lower level. Nancy Lehrkind

WOODSIDE GLEN \$1,275,000

Be a part of the newly constructed Woodside Glen neighborhood. Tudor style home, gourmet kitchen & lovely level garden. 4BR/2.5BA. Mindy Scott

SOPHISTICATED! \$1,185,000

Sophisticated & spacious 4BR + office/4BW. Perfect floorplan! Expansive eat-in kitchen/family room w/serene hill views. Elegant formal rooms. Fireplace. Jill Carrigan

PALM DRIVE \$1,070,000

Enjoy this friendly neighborhood from the front garden of this classic bungalow. Spacious living room w/built-ins, formal dining room, updated eat-in kitchen. 3BR/1+BA, bonus room & level garden. Mindy Scott

EUCLID AVENUE \$950,000

Amazing home on a huge property! 3BR/2.5BA, expansive living room, formal dining room, atrium opens to patio & garden retreat, music room & Bay views. Anne Van Dyke

BERKELEY HILLS \$895,000

Enjoy spectacular views from this traditional w/a Mediterranean flair. 3BR/2BA, elegant formal rooms, updated kitchen, remodeled bath & level lawn. Dana Cohen

RIDGEMONT \$860,000

This luxurious one-level home is located on a desirable cul-de-sac. Very private setting on an expansive lot w/beautiful grounds. 3BR/2.5BA. Sherry Benninger

ONE LEVEL LIVING! \$849,000

Lovely 3BR/2BA remodeled one-level home. Cook's kitchen/family room w/direct access to patio, large level lawn. Double garage. Near Hilltop School. The Ratcliffes

BERKELEY CHARM \$795,000

Absolute charm & wonderful neighborhood! Large living room w/vaulted, beamed ceiling, formal dining room, 4BR/2BAve. & sunny garden. Bebe McRae

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$699,000

Big view! 3BR/2.5BA, living room w/fireplace opens to deck. Large lower plus room. Carolyn Jones

BERKELEY BUNGALOW \$679,000

The perfect bungalow. Living room w/fireplace, dining room w/built-ins. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Studio. French doors to deck & lush garden. Bertina Balestrieri

CHARMING FOUR-PLEX \$649,000

Charming 4-plex is conveniently located near Park Blvd. & has 3-1+BR units, studio & garden. Ford/Plowright

PENTHOUSE \$595,000

Top floor penthouse condominium in best building. Splendid hill views! 2BR/2.5BA, laundry in unit, secure parking, large entertainment rooms. Close to Piedmont Ave. shops & dining. Bebe McRae

MOVE RIGHT IN! \$535,000

The modest exterior gives not hint of the knock-out interior of this 3BR/2BA condominium. Upgrades galore: kitchen & bath redesign. Nacio Brown

PARKWOODS \$395,000

Sunny & serene 1BR/1BA condo w/ fireplace, balcony, in-unit laundry & parking space. Mary Merrick

ADORABLE COTTAGE \$364,000

Adorable cottage near Westbrae shops, dining & BART. 1BR/1BA & eat-in kitchen. Anne Van Dyke

Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section. The first place to look when looking for a new home.



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Alameda
\$1,925,000
4BR/3BA. This stunning Victorian remodel has a fabulous master suite including 2BR/2BA Au Pair. Features including a custom kit, high ceilings, hwd flrs, garden w/ spa & parking.

Andrea Gordon (510) 339-8900



North Berkeley
\$1,395,000 **Open**

4BR/2.5BA. Delightful North Berkeley craftsman. Each room looks out on lush greenery. Large eat-in kitchen, family room, library, Atelier, and 3 fireplaces all on coveted cul-de-sac!

84 San Mateo Rd.
Open Sun 2-4:30PM
Miriam Wilson
510-339-8900

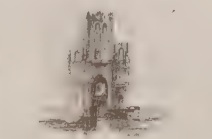


Berkeley
\$1,495,000
4 Units. Best Elmwood location. 2-2 bed units, 2-1 bed units. Formal dining rms, fireplaces, lush garden, basement, laundry, ideal TIC, owners plus income.

Miriam Wilson (510) 339-8900



Lake Merritt
\$675,000
3BR/2BA striking "coco" "glove" building. The 7th floor plan offers a spacious floorplan with decorative tropical chandelier, & stone 40' terrace has panoramic Lake Merritt. Call for showings.
Tom Erwin (510) 339-8900



Lake Merritt
\$659,000
2BR/2BA. Major price reduction. This spacious condo in Oakland's famous Art Deco highrise has panoramic views from every rm. Amenities are a wd brng frplc, a FDR & an updt'd eat-in kit. Building provides 24 hr dman & valet svcs. Call for showings.
Tom Erwin (510) 339-8900



Piedmont Ave
\$635,000
2BR/1BA. Unbeatable loc. Sweet 1920's bungalow w/ new paint & re-finished hwd. Frplc. FDR w/ built-ins. New central heating. Pvt. level yard. Ample parking. Rare opportunity.
54 Ramona Ave.
Open Sun 2-4:30
Mark Miller (510) 339-8900



Alameda
\$589,000 **Open**
2BR/1BA. Darling Craftsman w/ amazing details: stained glass, built-ins, box beam ceilings, gorgeous wood trim. Remodeled kit. & bath. Lovely garden. Close to everything.
838 Oak St.
Open Sun 2-4:30
Andrea Gordon (510) 339-8900



Lake Merritt
\$565,000
2BR/2BA. Price reduced! On the 7th floor of famous landmark highrise is this panoramic view from every rm. Amenities incl. a wood parquet flrs, a FDR, and 24 hr. dman svcs. Call for showings.
Tom Erwin (510) 339-8900



Berkeley
\$539,950
2BR/1BA. While it's doubtful Prince Charles and Camilla would trade Buckingham Palace for this classic 1910 bungalow in move-in condition, Berkeleyites have called it home for 95 years. Come on by & see why.
Nick Lavrov (510) 339-8900



Oakland
\$625,000 **Open**
2BR/1BA. Charming 1923 Bungalow w/ dining room, living room, fireplace, deck, carport, decorator paint inside, hwd flrs. Ready to move into.
2320 Eastman Ave.
Open Sun 1-4:00
Keith D. Rapp (925) 314-1500



Ivy Hill
\$499,000 **Open**
2BR/1BA. Perched on Oakland's Ivy Hill. This home features city views & charming 1920's detail. Hwd flrs & frplc. Recently painted kit. Cozy briskst nook & FDR. Lndscpd bkdyd.
630 E. 21st St.
Open Sun 2-4:30
Victor Florio (510) 339-8900



El Cerrito
\$489,950
2BR/1BA. Get your house done early and keep it going. What better place than a "new" house for the home? Convenient location. LR, hwd flrs, backyard. Hwd flrs, and more.
Nick Lavrov (510) 339-8900

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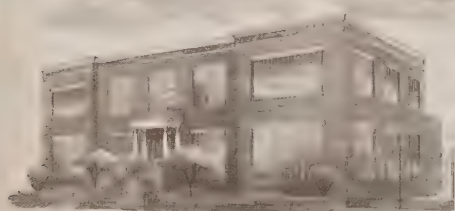
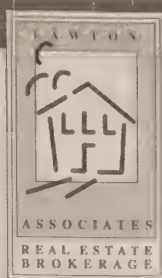
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in a Historic Brick Building

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2 Bed/2 Bath Available Now



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OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



1955 Manzanita Drive, Oakland

This 4BR, 3BA, 4107 SF Paul Vicente home has it all! Bay Views, Full Bar, Euro Updated Kitchen, 3-Car Oversized Garage & Workshop, Wine Room, Exercise Room, Luxury Master Suite, SUN FILLED Living & Dining Rooms with Vaulted Ceilings, Lush Terraced Gardens to Private Spa & Bar, Central Speaker & Security Systems. True Entertainer's Delight!

Virtual: <http://www.circlepix.com/ziprealty/KWZFEO>



Linnette Edwards

925.580.8801

Associate Broker, Realtor
Member of Platinum President's Club



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1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND

(510) 531-7000

www.wellsandbennett.com

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00PM - 4:30PM

BY APPOINTMENT

1727 PINEHAVEN ROAD \$1,150,000
Montclair. Tahoe setting. Four bedrooms, three
baths all on one level. Four car garage with full
kitchen and utilities. 1/3 acre.
Fred Perkins 531-7000 x282

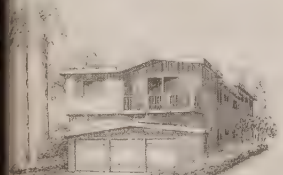


3643 VICTOR AVENUE \$619,000
Redwood Heights. 1st Open! 3BD/1+BA home
with magnificent views of bay, city and bridge.
Updated kitchen and bath. Large workshop, sunny
deck, fenced back yard. Convenient location.
Nancy Novick 531-7000 x254



1399 WOODVIEW DRIVE \$1,200,000
Lafayette. Lovely 4BD/3BA sylvan setting
overlooking Mt. Diablo Valley. This 2,828 sq.ft.
home sits on 1/2 - acres. Beamed redwood ceiling
throughout, three fireplace, family room, eat-in
kitchen, dining room and large living room. Needs
TLC to sparkle. Award winning Lafayette schools.
Handyman special!
Margaret Acevedo 531-7000 x244

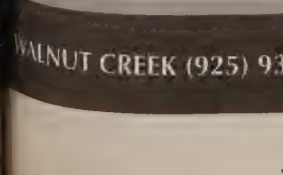
1071 CURRAN AVENUE \$850,000
Oakland. Quiet suburban like five plex built in
1944. All two bedrooms, one bath, approximately
1800 sq.ft. Central heating, double ovens, on site
laundry and laundry.
Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258



140 CHETWOOD STREET \$949,000
Oakland/Lake. Price reduction is your opportunity.
Fabulous 4-plex with 3BD owner's unit, two 2BD
and one 1BD unit. All will be vacant at close.
Walk to Rose Garden, Grand and Lakeshore
Highways, Lake Merritt. Tremendous upside potential.
Dana Dunning 531-7000 x239



10 HILLCREST COURT \$699,000
Oakland Hills. This 2000+ sq.ft. town home
features a wonderful open floor plan with a great
view. Completely private from neighbors with
granite counters and stainless steel appliances in
the kitchen, very high end. Huge lower level with
separate room for washer/dryer and 3 spacious
baths. Fireplace in living room. Two car garage.
Lisa Uribe 531-7000 x272



16058 CAMBRIAN DRIVE \$565,000
San Leandro. Enjoy this 3BD/2BA home with
expansive views. TLC will make this a gorgeous
home. Spacious living room with fireplace and
random plank hardwood, master suite and two
additional bedrooms. Sliders from family room to
back yard. Must See!
Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292



3469 COOLIDGE \$558,000
Oakland. California bungalow. 3BD/2BA, den,
updated kitchen, baths, laundry, hardwood and
tiled floors. Two car garage converted to home
office. A Must See!
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

2344 96TH AVENUE \$479,000
Oakland. 3BD/1BA+bonus room, charming home
on corner lot, unique 3-level design. Fenced back
yard with lots of fruit trees. Great for the 1st
time buyer or great income property. Priced Right!
Rita Robinson 531-7000 x241



500 VERNON #115 \$325,000
Rose Garden. Beautiful 1BD/1BA completely
upgraded with lovely granite kitchen counters,
beautiful hardwood floors, unit is on 2nd floor of
the building. Near shops and freeways and public
transportation.
Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

JACK LONDON SQUARE WAREHOUSE \$2,498,000

Oakland-Jack London. Corner property 13,925
sq.ft. Clear span, four docks, two ramps.
Buildable approximately 60 units.
Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258



FIVE UNITS IN GLENVIEW \$938,000
Glenview. \$73K Gross income, stylish
remodeled owner's unit with cathedral ceilings,
fully rented, five off street parking spaces, \$10K
pest report, convenient location.
Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246

STUNNING CONTEMPORARY/COTTAGE
MIX \$895,000
Montclair. Central Montclair locale on 12,600
sq.ft. lot. Updated kitchen, 3BD/3BA plus large
recreation room with kitchenette and bath. In-
law/office potential. Hardwood floors, fresh
paint, two-car garage.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



WHETHER YOU'RE A 1ST TIME BUYER
OR AN INVESTOR \$750,000
North Berkeley. Looking for a great
opportunity, this cozy 3BD/2.5BA split level
Victorian is ideal. It has a detached garage, a
private deck with hot tub, eat-in kitchen, dining
room and more. Don't miss it!
Beth DeAtley 531-7006 x234

OAKLAND UNITS
5 Units--All 2BRs--1961 yr built. \$850,000
6 Units--2-2BRs, 4-1BRs--1962 yr built \$875,000
4 Units--Downtown Victorian \$839,000
8 Units--China Town, great flr plans \$1,475,000
Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258

Cabins, Condos, and
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Tahoe! 800-858-2463

LAND FOR SALE

9.11 ACRES IN CORNING CA \$4,650,000
Commercial and residential zoned. Off I-5. Has five
homes currently. Super development potential
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

36,700 SQFT/OAKLAND \$1,800,000
All level. Zoned M30. Near High Street and 880
freeway. Reports available.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

ALTURA \$465,000
Private gated estate. Bay view and utilities. Has two
cabins.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

GRADED UPSLOPE LOT \$395,000
Hillier Highlands area, South view, Utilities,
driveway.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

FAIRFAX \$198,000
Commercial upslope. 11750 sq.ft. top locale. Views
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MILL VALLEY \$195,000
Three lots. Downslope, utilities, drawings, repots.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MONTCLAIR UPSLOPE \$179,000
Utilities present in street. Excellent value
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

LAKE TAHOE OFFICE

SOPHISTICATED MOUNTAIN STYLE \$3,950,000

Tahoe. This is a custom 4BD/4.5BA mountain
home built by a local builder. High ceilings,
beautiful warm wood paneling, quartzite floors,
granite counters and custom tile work in the kitchen
and baths. Each BD has an attached full BA and
there is an extra room that can be used as a game
room. Office with lake view, for play you have a
pier with boat lift and a buoy.
Jim Plumbbridge/Carla Werner 800-858-8463

EXECUTIVE RETREAT \$1,699,000
Tahoe. Lots of room to hang out in this spacious
5BD/5.5BA mountain home. Featuring, 3 mstr BD,
den and a loft with extra storage areas. Living room
has a stone fireplace, dining room, big sunny tiled
deck. Bonus in-law unit with separate entrance.
Jim Plumbbridge/Carla Werner 800-858-8463

PARADISE FOUND \$899,000
Tahoe. Summer or Winter you have easy access to
mountains and just steps to the beach. Features 3
comfortable BD/2 full BA, a warm living/dining
area with a more ample kitchen. Master has French
doors that open onto a private deck with lake and
mountain views.
Carla Werner 800-858-8463

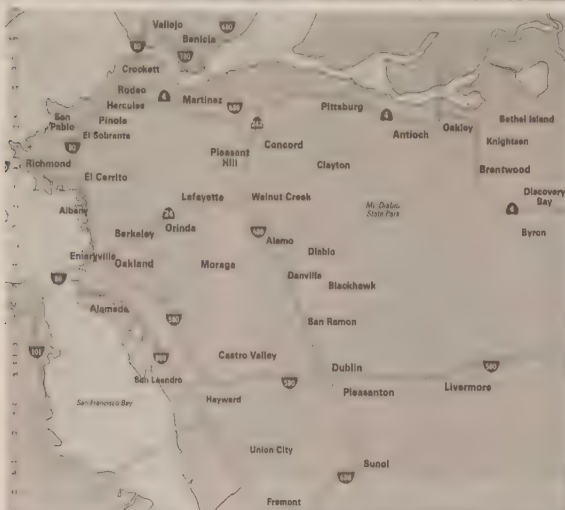
WALNUT CREEK (925) 938-8484

LAKE TAHOE RENTAL/SALES (800) 858-2463 www.tahoerentals.com

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostimes.com



Alameda		
\$299,000	1437 Morton St. H	1BD/1BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Harbor Bay Realty
\$343,900	1305 Webster C-209	1BD/1 BA Sun 2-4 Alameda Realty
\$343,900	1305 Webster St. C-209	1bd/1ba Sun 2-4 Alameda Realty
\$345,000	1333 Webster St. A105	1BD/1BA Sat/Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$359,000	1305 Webster C-203	1BD/1 BA Sun 2-4 Alameda Realty
\$359,000	1305 Webster St. C-203	1bd/1ba Sun 2-4 Alameda Realty
\$409,000	2416 Marti Rae Ct	1 BD/1 BA Sat 2-4 Central Harbor Bay Realty
\$424,000	2025 Otis Dr.	2BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 So. Shore Harbor Bay Realty
\$525,000	1596 Pacific Ave.	2 BD/1 BA Open Sun 2-4 West End Rialty World
\$525,000	2066 Encinal Ave.	2 BD/2 BA Sat & Sun 1-4 Central Harbor Bay Realty
\$528,000	301 Broadway #202	2BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$549,000	1724 Walnut St.	2 BD/1 BA Sun 2-4 Central Harbor Bay Realty
\$568,000	1006 Taylor Ave.	2BD/1BA Sun 2-4 West End Gallagher & Lindsey
\$559,000	1904 Schiller St.	3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Century 21 Gateway Realty
\$665,000	3111 La Campana	4 BD/2.5 BA Sat & Sun 1-4 Bay Farm Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes
\$574,950	1122 Marianas	3BD/2.5BA Open Sun 1-4 Windermere Properties
\$575,000	2629 Central Ave.	2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$579,500	3122 La Campana	3BD/2.5BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Harbor Bay Realty
\$585,000	440 Cola Ballena C	2 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$589,000	838 Oak St.	2BD/1BA Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30pm C21 Heritage
\$599,000	1843 8th St.	3BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Central Harbor Bay Realty
\$619,000	2022 High St. #D	2BD/2.5BA Sat/Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$624,000	1068 Mangrove Ln.	3BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Bay Farm Harbor Bay Realty
\$625,000	4 Courageous Ct.	2BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$639,000	3010 Otis Drive	3 BD/2BA Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$639,000	410 Lagunaria Ln.	3 BD/2.5 BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Harbor Bay Realty
\$665,000	1521 Mintum	4 BD/2 BA Open Sun 2-4 Central Gallagher & Lindsey
\$669,000	1222 Porta Ballena	3 BD/2.5 BA Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$675,000	1112 Rosewood Way	3BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 So. Shore Harbor Bay Realty
\$679,000	1109 Rosewood Dr.	3+ BD/2 BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Home-Link Real Estate
\$679,000	513 Lagunaria Ln.	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Harbor Bay Realty
\$688,000	5 Sanderling Ct.	3 BD/2.5 BA Sun 1-4 West End Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes
\$689,000	450 Taylor Ave.	3 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$699,000	1804 Nason St.	4BD/1.5BA Sun 2-4 Central Gallagher & Lindsey

Alameda		
\$699,000	456 Pacific Avenue	2 Units Sat/Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$710,000	1053 Island Dr.	3BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Harbor Bay Realty
\$725,000	1718 Lafayette St.	3BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$729,900	2626 Calhoun St.	3 BD/2 BA East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$735,000	1202 Ballena Blvd.	3 BD/3 BA Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$769,000	67 Vista Rd.	3 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Harbor Bay Realty
\$819,000	216 Encounter Bay	3 BD/2.5 BA Sun 2-4:30 Bayside Real Estate
\$820,000	1361 Eastshore Dr.	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$825,000	609 Larchmont Isle.	3BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$838,000	2900 Windsor Dr.	3 BD/3BA Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$850,000	131 Diapian Bay	3 BD/2.5 BA Sat & Sun 1:30-4:30 Harbor Bay Realty
\$869,000	1169 Hillery Way	4BD/2 1/2 BA Sun 2-4 Many Upgrades! FSBO
\$869,000	1701 Broadway	4 Units Sat 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$875,000	1427 Grove Street	3BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey
\$895,000	1337 Sherman	4BD/3BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$895,000	354 Tideway Dr.	2 BD/2.5 BA Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$899,000	3119 Marina Dr.	2 BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$939,000	640 Pond Isle	4 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 South Shore Harbor Bay Realty
\$949,000	3272 Central Ave.	4 BD/2 BA + Cott. Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$950,000	1333 Weber St.	4 BD/1.5 BA Sun 2-4:30 Blickley Real Estate
\$975,000	2854 Lincoln Ave.	3 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$1,195,000	1626-1628 Alameda Ave.	Duplex Sun 2-4:30 Central Gallagher & Lindsey
\$1,500,000	715 Grand St.	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Gold Coast Harbor Bay Realty
\$1,590,000	1906 Alameda Ave.	3+BD/2+BA Sun 1-4 Central Gallagher & Lindsey
\$2,190,000	26 Castlebar Pl.	4 BD/3.5 BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle Harbor Bay Realty
\$2,250,000	221 Creedon Cir.	4 BD/4 BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle Harbor Bay Realty
\$410,000	555 Pierce St #240	2bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Berkeley Hills R.E.
\$425,000	417 Evelyn #101	1bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Security Pacific R.E.
\$429,000	988 Kains Ave	3bd/2ba Sat/Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens

Albany		
\$460,000	715 Washington	2+bd/1+ba Sat/Sun 2-4 Prudential
\$559,000	520 Cornell Ave	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$629,000	1061 Cornell Ave	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$640,000	1117/1119 Cornell	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$725,000	720 Evelyn	3bd/1.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Thornwall Prop.
\$775,000	1049 Ordway St	3+bd/2ba Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$885,000	1026 Ordway St.	4bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Albany Hills
\$949,000	1451 Marin Ave	4++bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$995,000	796 Hillside Avenue	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
Berkeley		
\$329,000	1814 63rd St.	1BD/1BA Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey
\$459,000	1712 Russel St.	2BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker
\$495,000	1310 Poe St	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-5 Prudential
\$525,000	3112 A Ellis St	3bd/1.5ba Open Sun 1-4 Red Oak Realty
\$539,500	1814 Franklin Street	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$539,950	1636 Stuart St.	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage
\$549,000	2814 Hillegass #C2	2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential
\$549,000	2923 King St	2bd/1.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Cal. Realty
\$575,000	1409 Greenwood Terrace	1bd/2ba Open Sun 1-4 Upper Rose
\$599,000	1228 Stannage Ave.	2+BD/1.5BA Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker
\$599,000	2067 Bonar St	3+bd/2+ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair
\$615,000	2719 Mathews St	4bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$645,000	1527 Tyler	3+bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$695,000	643 Cragmont Ave	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$699,000	2104 Acton St	-bd/-ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$718,000	1313 Henry	3+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 No. Berkeley Berkeley Hills Realty
\$749,000	1226 Russell St	3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty
\$749,000	1381 Rose	3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Thornwall Properties
\$749,000	467 Vermont Avenue	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$754,500	2932 Pine Ave	2+bd/2ba Open Sun 1-5 Prudential
\$769,000	1911 Rose St	3+BD/2BA OPEN 1-4 Investment House Realty
\$795,000	2938 Shasta Road	3BD/2BA Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$799,000	1235 Stannage Ave	4bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$799,000	2940 Pine Ave	3bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-5 Better Homes Montclair
\$799,000	8/BA Panoramic Place	1bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$829,000+	2209 2211 5th St	2+bd/2ba Open Sun 1-4:30 Red Oak Realty
\$849,000	1987 El Dorado	510-868-1495 Open Sun 2-5 Coldwell Banker
\$850,000	1312 Oxford Street	-BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$895,000	2027 Los Angeles Ave	4bd/1.5ba Open Sun 2-4 North Berkeley Thornwall Properties
\$925,000	515 Cragmont	3+BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential
\$1,125,000	781 Spruce	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker
\$1,195,000	2808 Hilgard	4+BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4 Pacific Union Residential

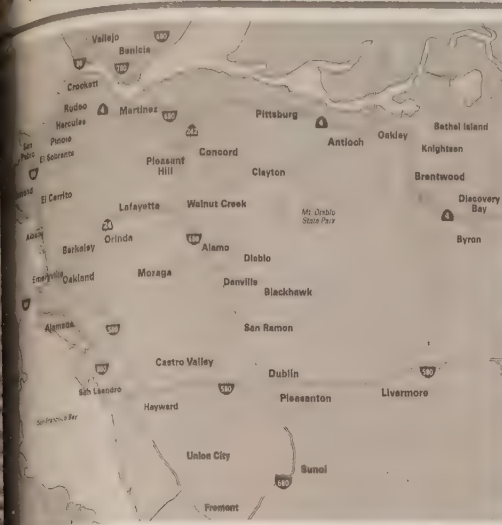
Berkeley		
\$1,400,000	863 Santa Barbara	4bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Millstein & Associates
\$1,495,000	70 Vicente	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$1,700,000	36,38,40 Domingo Avenue	7BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$1,750,000	1039 Amato Drive	4BD/4.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$1,750,000	233 Stonewall Road	4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$1,750,000	822 Santa Barbara Rd	5+bd/3.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Marvin Gardens
\$3,700,000	1010 Cragmont Avenue	9+BD/7.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
Castro Valley		
\$540,000	4019 Somerset Ave.	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 EdenTownship
Concord		
\$565,000	1349 Cape Cod Way	4bd/2ba Open Sun 12-5 Prudential
El Cerrito		
\$475,000	1233 Liberty St	2bd/1ba Open Sun 1-4 Red Oak Realty
\$535,000	6628 Cutting Blvd	3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$539,000	7485 Curry Ave	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$585,000	417 Lexington St	3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$599,000	1244 Richmond St	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$697,000	325-329 Coronado Ave	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Duplex Marvin Gardens
\$699,000	2613 Yuba	3+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Security Pacific
\$899,000	532 Bonnie Dr	4bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$1,500,000	7304 Pebble Beach Dr.	5BD/5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
El Sobrante		
\$529,000	910 St. Andrews	3BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Pacific Union Residential
\$579,000	2002 Thompson Ln	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$595,000	985 Valerie Court	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
Emeryville		
\$1,100,000	1207 54th St	Fourplex Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty
Hayward		
\$445,000	19621 Medford Cir	2BD/2.5 BA Sat & Sun 1-4 Gallagher & Lindsey Inc.
\$565,000	25481 Calaroga	3BD/2BA Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker
Hercules		
\$439,000	180 S. Wildwood	2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-5 Intero Real Estate
\$750,000	1015 Craftsman Dr.	3BD/2.5BA Open Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker
Kensington		
\$595,000	109 Kenyon Ave	2+bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Marvin Gardens R.E.
\$699,000	199 Purdue Ave	2+bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$799,000	77 Stratford Road	3BD/1.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$1,075,000	312 Rugby Ave	3+bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Marvin Gardens R.E.
Lafayette		
\$869,000	3199 Maryola Ct	3bd/2ba Open Sun 1-4 Better Homes Montclair
\$1,200,000	3399 Woodview Drive	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors
Oakland		
\$248,500	3 W. Embarcadero 227	1 BD/1 BA Sun 11-4 Harbor Bay Realty
\$299,000	2228 40th Ave.	1BD/1BA Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$299,000	642 Beacon St. #3	1BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors
\$299,000	727 Henry St.	2BD/1BA Open Sun, 2-4pm The Stone Company

Oakland		
\$300,000	5 W. Embarcadero #12	Marvin Gardens
\$309,000	2005 Pleasant Valley #11	2005 Pleasant Valley #11 Rockridge Better Homes Montclair
\$325,000	155 Pearl St. #105	Adams Point Commonwealth Co.
\$325,000	500 Vernon Street #105	2752 78th Ave Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors
\$369,000	1 Kelton Ct. #71	2752 78th Ave Sat/Sun 2-5 Prudential
\$375,000	2008 89th Ave	2008 89th Ave Open Sun 2-4 Better Homes Montclair
\$380,000	2752 78th Ave	2752 78th Ave Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$385,000	5890 Vallejo	5890 Vallejo Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$395,000	866 61st St	866 61st St Open Sun 2-4:30 Korman & Ng
\$399,000	2230 40th Ave.	2230 40th Ave. Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$399,000	300 Caldecott Ln. #215	300 Caldecott Ln. #215 Sun 1-3 Gallagher & Lindsey
\$399,000	4117 Pennington Ave	4117 Pennington Ave Open Sun 2-5 Prudential
\$399,995	3229 Deering Ave.	3229 Deering Ave. Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker
\$409,000	199 Montecito Ave. #10	199 Montecito Ave. #10 Open Sun 1-4 Re/Max E.Bay Hills
\$409,000	4501 Howe St.	4501 Howe St. Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$425,000	2315 64th Ave	2315 64th Ave Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$449,000	425 Orange St #21	425 Orange St #21 Open Sat & Sun 1-4 Assist-2-Sell
\$459,000	4101 Howe Street #304	4101 Howe Street #304 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$468,000	2161 40th Ave	2161 40th Ave Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair
\$474,050+	3220-3234 Linden St	3220-3234 Linden St Open Sun 2-4 (8 Townhomes) Red Oak Realty
\$479,000	2124 Rosedale	2124 Rosedale Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$479,000	2344 90th Avenue	2344 90th Avenue Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors
\$479,000	5326 Trask Street	5326 Trask Street Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$489,000	4129 G Pennington Dr	4129 G Pennington Dr Open Sun 2-4:30 Keller Williams
\$492,500	2661 23rd Ave	2661 23rd Ave Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$494,000	6422 Benvenue Ave	6422 Benvenue Ave Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$495,000	1317 E. 27th St	1317 E. 27th St Open Sun 2-4 Re/Max East Bay Hills
\$499,000	1099 66th St	1099 66th St Open Sun 2-4:30 Security Pacific
\$499,000	1124 Hollywood #2	1124 Hollywood #2 Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair
\$499,000	2932 Morgan Ave	2932 Morgan Ave Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty
\$499,000	527 43rd Street	527 43rd Street Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$499,000	531 55th Street	531 55th Street Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$499,000	6138 Outlook Ave.	6138 Outlook Ave. Sat/Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.
\$499,000	630 E. 21st St	630 E. 21st St Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage
\$499,000	6601 Deakin Street	6601 Deakin Street Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$499,000	670 Aggar	670 Aggar Open Sat/Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker
\$499,000	7916 Winthrop St	7916 Winthrop St Open Sun 2-5 Red Oak Realty
\$509,000	260 Caldecott #124	260 Caldecott #124 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$519,000	440 38th St. #8	440 38th St. #8 Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty
\$520,000	2415 E. 20th St.	2415 E. 20th St. Sat/Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.
\$520,000	5456 Brookdale	5456 Brookdale Open Sun 1:30-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$525,000	2920 Eastman Ave.	2920 Eastman Ave. Open Sun 1-4 Heritage Real Estate

OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com



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Jane Allen

3912 Vale Ave. 2+bd/1ba
510-524-0800
Pat duffy

2606 Kingsland Ave. 4 Unit
Open Sun 2-4:30
Tom Watson

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510-338-1364
Cindy Houts

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Jena Mg

3025 Davis St. 2bd/1.5ba
510-339-9290
Kacy Carr

2136 41st Avenue 2BD/1.25 BA
Fruitvale
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Day!

ALAMEDA



1427 GROVE STREET \$875,000
Fernside District Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Wonderful 3 bedroom, 2 bath Fernside district home with lovely wood detailing. Fireplace in living room, formal dining room, family room, office, built-ins, hardwood floors, fresh paint, breakfast nook and big mature yard.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
John Seibach 510-748-1170
Troy Staten 510-748-1125



1906 ALAMEDA AVENUE \$1,590,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 1-4
 This impressive home offers you the charm of the past combined with modern upgrades that "Retain Grandeur of Turn of the Century Living". Plenty of room to entertain. Located in Central Alameda, this Victorian is in excellent condition with meticulous attention to detail and craftsmanship. Beautifully restored Eastlake Mansion. Originally constructed in 1884, it now features 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths in main house, plus 2 bedroom, 1 bath rental unit, 4-car garage plus bonus room.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Donnee & Dave Hankel 510-748-1184



1006 TAYLOR AVENUE \$558,000
West End Open Sunday 2-4
 REDUCED! Sweet Spanish split-level bungalow on quiet street. Formal areas. Living room fireplace, dining room with built in china cabinet. Eat-in kitchen and separate breakfast nook can double as study or play area. Hardwood floors under carpet. Indoor utility. All appliances stay. Walk to farmer's market, parks, and public transport.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Sonia Lastreto 510-748-1110
Kurt Jacobsen 510-748-1173



1521 MINTURN \$665,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 Marcuse & Remmel Victorian. Once used as a triplex, restored to 4 bedroom, 2 bath single family home and bonus rooms. Larger than it looks. Hardwood floors. Upgraded kitchen and baths. Fenced yard and 1-car garage. Plumbed and wired for potential expansion in large basement.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Iris Murillo 510-748-1105



1804 NASON STREET \$699,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 REDUCED! Lots of windows and natural light in this large family home. 1888 sq ft on 5080 sq ft lot. 4 bedrooms, den, 1.5 baths. Formal areas, living room fireplace, dining room box beam ceiling. Master bedroom on the first floor. Newly refinished hardwood floors. New interior paint. Large lot for garden and play.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Chih Wu 510-748-1162



1344-46 WEBER STREET \$669,500
Gold Coast Area By Appointment Only
 Great location! College style 2 units in desirable Gold Coast area. Front unit is a 1 bedroom, 1 bath and rear unit is a 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Both have oak hardwood flooring, fireplaces and detached 2-car garage.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Bill & Griseida Bissett 510-748-1108

Gallagher & Lindsey REALTORS®

Gallagher & Lindsey Trolley Tour Of Alameda

"Ask how you can be a V.I.B." (Very Important Buyer)

Alameda Open Home Tour includes lunch at noon at G&L's 2424 Central Avenue office
 Space is limited so be sure and call today to reserve your spot
 Please call (510)521-8181 and ask how you can become a V.I.B (Very Important Buyer)

ALAMEDA



1626-28 ALAMEDA AVENUE \$1,195,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4:30
 Impressive Turn of the Century Colonial Revival. This stately Gold Coast neighborhood home is a spacious 4,416 sq ft owner occupied duplex with income or single family home with room for the entire family. Resplendent with pocket doors, wainscoting, hardwood floors, coved ceilings and built-in cabinets. Lots of space and large rooms give you the feeling of comfort. Serene brick-in courtyard garden. Bonus rooms, finished attic, additional unit and half basement.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Michele Poulier 510-748-1157

536 PACIFIC AVENUE \$889,000
West End By Appointment Only
 This large Queen Anne Victorian Duplex has a 3 bedroom, 2 bath on 1st floor, 2 studios & one 1+ upper. All have separate gas & electric meters. Featuring newer roof, new exterior paint, water heater, fence and concrete driveway with detached 2 car garage. Conveniently located adjacent to Longfellow elementary and is historical list.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Moon Tam 510-747-1620

1701 CENTRAL AVENUE #A \$425,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 NEW LISTING! Single level 2 bedrooms, 2 baths corner condo in a prime location in Central Alameda. This is a must see!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ruth Masonok 510-748-1101

ANTIOCH



4135 DONNER COURT \$590,000
Wild Horse By Appointment Only
 Just imagine living in this beautiful 4 bed, 3 full bath home with extra bonus sitting room off the master bedroom! Located in the very desirable Wildhorse development, this home is loaded with fantastic upgrades and much more!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Darryl & Yolanda Freeman 510-748-1165

BERKELEY



1814 63RD STREET \$329,000
Berkeley Edge Open Sunday 2-4
 Desirable 1 bedroom, 1 bath Berkeley condo in 20's style building. Great location—walk to BART, Farmer's Market and the Elmwood's College Avenue shops. Features include hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen, westerly views from top floor, large backyard and off street parking.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Michael Studebaker 510-748-1129

CASTRO VALLEY



4019 SOMERSET AVENUE \$548,000
Eden Township Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 STOP LOOKING, this is the one! Cute 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow. Good starter home in the Castro Valley school district.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Dave & Donnee Hankel 510-748-1184
Annaliza Ramirez 510-748-1195

DANVILLE

147 HERITAGE PARK DRIVE \$729,000
Heritage Park By Appointment Only
 PRICE DROP - OWNER MOTIVATED! Amazing home at a great price, 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus loft off of master suite. This large home is walking distance to Blackhawk, shopping center, Movie Theater and golf courses. Just steps from the community pool and spa. Freshly painted outside and new wood and tile floors downstairs.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1189

EL CERRITO

6701 BLAKE STREET \$930,000
El Cerrito By Appointment Only
 PRICE DROP! 2 houses on one lot! Walking distance to BART and shopping. Back house divided into 4 unwarranted units with plenty of income. Front house is a beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath single family home. Walking distance to El Cerrito BART station, shopping and public transportation make this property highly desirable.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1189

HAYWARD



19621 MEDFORD CIRCLE \$445,000
Hayward Open Sat & Sun 1-4
 This home is a must see! Built in 1992, this 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath home features new interior paint, close to BART and shopping.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Eric Tam 510-748-1135

OAKLAND



6138 OUTLOOK AVENUE \$499,000
Millmont Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 New listing with lots of space including large living room and front patio with vast views of the Bay Area skyline. 3 bedroom home including 1273 sq ft. 1 and a quarter baths and kitchen with breakfast nook. 2 car garage and extra room for storage. Located on a tree lined street with big backyard including 6800 sq ft, perfect to create a cozy retreat or for entertaining.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Stephanie Neher 510-748-1133

OAKLAND



2415 E 20th STREET \$520,000
Oakland Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 "Arts & Crafts" 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with abundant charm. Featuring coved ceilings, hardwood floors under carpet, remodeled kitchen & bathroom. Plus room is currently being used as a study. Private back yard and balcony off master bedroom. Great Price!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Justine Francis 510-748-1164
Sandi Hamilton 510-748-1192



6525 BUENA VENTURA AVENUE \$690,000
Millmont Open Sunday 1-3
 "Simple elegance" are the words that describe this incredible 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath contemporary home. This home is loaded with wonderful features such as breathtaking views of city lights & bay, gleaming hardwoods, formal living & dining room, decorative slate fireplace, updated gourmet kitchen, huge master suite with master bath & Jacuzzi tub, huge finished bonus room and much, much more!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Darryl & Yolanda Freeman 510-748-1165



300 CALDECOTT LANE #215 \$399,000
Parkwood Condos Open Sunday 1-3
 Come and see this beautiful 1 bed, 1 bath luxury condo located in the secure, gated community of Parkwood Condominiums! Just seconds away from easy access to Hwy 24 near the Caldecott Tunnel.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Darryl & Yolanda Freeman 510-748-1165



2126 41st AVENUE \$549,000
Fruitvale Open Sunday 2-4:30
 The treasured craftsmanship of the 1920's is found here in this magnificent charming residence. Consisting of 1,454 sq. ft. of living space; perched over a full basement and double car garage. Its formal rooms display a commanding fireplace, built-in hutch and window bays. This spacious 2 bedroom, 1.25 bath home also features a country kitchen with adjoining breakfast room. Located at the "Y" in the road, overlooking the distance rooftops it is said that the fireworks bring on an awesome sight.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ms. "Sam" McDowell 510-748-1131

555 10th STREET #111 \$420,000
Downtown By Appointment Only
 OLD TOWN SQUARE condominiums are one of the collective and beautiful results of Oakland's redevelopment completed in 1998, a creative design influenced by the segregation of its exterior towering columns reflecting a variation of complementary colors. Featuring 2 bedrooms and 2 baths, this property is modestly priced.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ms. "Sam" McDowell 510-748-1131

OAKLAND

5 W EMBARCADERO #219
Jack London By Appointment Only
 Very well maintained 1 bedroom, 1 bath corner unit. New granite counter tops, east facing deck with East Bay views. Resort-like complex adjacent to Alameda Square entertainment district.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
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3136 HIGH STREET
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 3 homes on a 9600 sq ft lot, owner priced to sell! Front home is 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Middle home is 1 bedroom rear home is a studio.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
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West Oakland By Appointment Only
 BIG PRICE DROP! Wonderful potential! Building has a nice unit with rough commercial downstairs. If available lot next door is also for sale together. Potential, potential, potential!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1131

2636 MONTICELLO AVENUE
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 Nice 3 bedroom, 1 bath California style home that needs some TLC. New roof, new and large back yard with ample parking.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Nations 510-748-1131

3630 PENNIMAN AVENUE
Oakland By Appointment Only
 This is a great starter home near school. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home is a studio in back without permits.
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 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
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SAN LEANDRO



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 This immaculate 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath Broadmoor split-level home is fresh and has upgrades galore - new kitchen, dual pane windows, oak kitchen more. Featuring hardwood floors, a fireplace and a woodburning fireplace in the living room. The enclosed rear yard includes a flower beds with mature ornamental trees and storage shed. Also includes a old roof and 1 car attached garage.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Mary Ann Herber 510-748-1131
Sharon Greene 510-748-1131

1541 VINING DRIVE
San Leandro Border By Appointment Only
 Gorgeous 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch home to move in with 2 car garage, beautiful landscaping and a large, open, spacious back patio.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Carlos Valillo-Roca 510-748-1131

510.521.8181
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West End Alameda—1410 Webster Street East End Alameda—2424 Central Avenue

SPORTS

• Friday, November 11, 2005 •

Section C

Around the horn

International baseball

The Oakland Museum will host "The Globalization of Baseball — More Than Just America's Game" from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20. Giants pitcher Tim Lincecum will be among those featured. Author Jules Tygiel will be among those taking part in a panel discussion about the future of baseball given the decline of native-born U.S. players in the major leagues and the influx of players from Latin America, Asia, Australia and Europe. This event runs in conjunction with "Baseball As America," a traveling exhibit of the Baseball Hall of Fame currently on display at the Oakland Museum.

— Mike McGreehan

Play honors baseball great

Actor Eddie Frierson portrays Hall of Fame pitcher Christy Mathewson in the acclaimed one-man play, "Matty: An Afternoon with Christy Mathewson," in the Oakland Museum theater from 2-4 p.m. on Nov. 27. Mathewson, who died in 1925, won 373 major league games and was among the inaugural class of Baseball Hall of Fame inductees in 1936. Frierson began researching Mathewson's life and career in 1984. "Matty: An Afternoon with Christy Mathewson" is in conjunction with "Baseball As America," at the Oakland Museum.

— Mike McGreehan

Youth basketball tryouts

The Piedmont Basketball Foundation will hold tryouts for fourth and fifth grade boys winter teams on Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Piedmont High School gym. Fourth-grade tryouts are at 4 p.m. Fifth-grade tryouts are at 5:30 p.m. There is no charge for the tryouts, but parents must sign a player release form. To register for fourth-grade tryouts, contact Ephraim Greenwall at egreenwall@talcotholdings.com. For fifth-grade tryouts, e-mail Pete Slabaugh at pslabaugh@comcast.net.

— Mike McGreehan

Historic round

With her golf round of even-par 71 Monday at the California Interscholastic Federation/Northern California Golf Association Northern California regionals, Albany High School's Joy Kim became her school's first female golfer to reach a state championship. Kim was the medalist Monday and has advanced to CIF state championships on Nov. 18 at PGA of California Golf Club in Beaumont. Kim is second Albany female athlete to reach a CIF state championship as an individual, according to Albany athletic director Deborah Wanlan. Albany's Bianca Molinari qualified for the CIF state track and field championships last spring.

— Phil Jensen

Youth movement

The Bay Shore Athletic League cross country girls and boys should be dominated by young runners for the next three years. Four of the top five runners in last week's BSAL championship were underclassmen. Albany led the bunch with sophomores Jackie Quinn (22 minutes, 48 seconds) and Nina Lincoff (23:57) finishing fourth and fifth, respectively. Piedmont freshman Marki Becker was third (22:42) and Salesian junior Lora Marchini was second (22:40). The winner of the 3.06 mile trek at Joaquin Miller Park in Alameda was Alameda senior Devaja Shafer (22:17).

— Robert Jordan

Softball signups available

The Alameda Girls Softball Association is accepting registration for its Spring 2006 season. Parents can register their daughters online at www.alamedasga.com or in person on Dec. 1. The in-person registration night is from 7 to 9 p.m. at Edison School, 2700 Buena Vista Ave. in Alameda. AGSA offers recreational softball for girls ages 5 through 14. For more information, visit www.alamedasga.com.

— Robert Jordan

On Deck

Girls volleyball, BSAL playoff championship — Saturday, 7 p.m. — Albany is the top seed in the playoffs, and St. Mary's is the No. 2 seed. Semifinals results were not available at press time. The championship match will be hosted by the highest seed remaining.

Girls tennis, NCS singles and doubles championships — Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. — Albany's Jennifer Lau, Mangala Gopal and Vikki Gopal will represent Albany in the NCS singles and doubles championships. Lau and Gopal are part of the top four brackets and Gopal/Fermin-Weinrab and Lau/Cohen are in the doubles tournament.

Girls golf, CIF state championships, PGA Southern California Golf Club, Beaumont, Wednesday, Nov. 23 — Albany's Joy Kim and College Prep's Mia Molinari qualified for the tournament. Kim won the NorCal individual championship in Vacaville with an even-par 71.

Stars of the week

Joy Kim, Albany girls golf — Kim was the medalist at the CIF/NGCA Northern California regionals with a score of even-par 71. With the finish, she qualified for the CIF state championships.

Jacob Dennis, El Cerrito football — The senior rushed for a game-high 262 yards on 14 carries, including touchdown runs of 84 and 59 yards, in the Gauchos' 44-41 loss to Pinole Valley. He also caught two passes for 33 yards.

Dwayne Adams, Berkeley football — Adams rushed for a game-high 206 yards on 27 carries, including a 5-yard touchdown run, in the Yellow Jacks' 36-9 win over Encinal.

Kim wins NorCal golf title



BOB LARSON/STAFF

ALBANY'S JOY KIM on her championship round: "Both my chipping and putting were really good. I didn't hit many greens in regulation, but I just kept saving par."

■ Albany freshman surprises field, shooting even-par 71 to capture the championship by three shots

By Chace Bryson

STAFF WRITER

VACAVILLE — Everybody at the California Interscholastic Federation/Northern California Golf Association Northern California regionals knew about the Monte Vista High School girls team. After all, the Mustangs were the defending champion.

Nobody knew about Joy Kim.

Kim, a freshman from Albany, raised eyebrows at Green Tree Golf Club on Monday, shooting an even-par 71 to finish three strokes ahead of Corina Rees of Pacific Grove to take medalist honors.

Monte Vista quietly went about shooting a five-golfer score of 421 to repeat as champion by seven strokes.

Still, the story of the day was Kim.

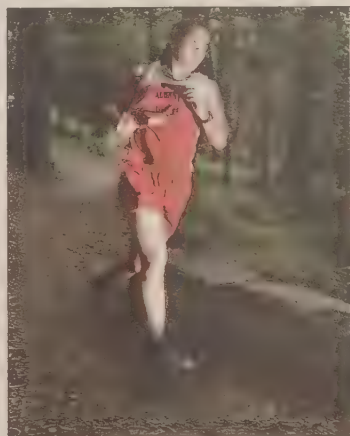
"Both my chipping and putting were really good," Kim said. "I didn't hit many greens in regulation, but I just kept saving par."

Kim began her round on the back nine where she was 1 over after eight holes, but returned to even after a birdie on No. 18. On the front nine, she had three birdies, including a chip-in on No. 9 to finish her round.

"I've known her since we were both probably 10- or 11-years-old," Monte Vista sophomore Jane Lee said of Kim. "She's really improved. She really deserves it because I know how hard she's worked on her game."

Kim was one of six individuals from non-qualifying teams to qualify for the CIF state championships at PGA of Southern California Golf Club in Beaumont on Wednesday. Monte Vista, which finished fourth at state last season, will return to the event along with second-place Oak Ridge-El Dorado Hills (428) and Santa Catalina-Monterey (429).

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS



DEAN COPPOLA/STAFF

ALBANY SOPHOMORE Jackie Quinn runs to a fourth-place finish at the BSAL girls varsity cross country championship meet.

Sophomores lead Albany to BSAL cross country title

By Robert Jordan

STAFF WRITER

One assistant coach called them the super sophs, and with the way the Albany High School girls cross country team ran on Nov. 3, he might be right.

Sophomores Jackie Quinn, Nina Lincoff and Natalie Buck-Bauer all finished in the top 15 to help the Cougars claim the Bay Shore Athletic League Championship at Joaquin Miller Park in Oakland. Senior Asma Mohammadi and junior Lexi Cousins also joined their sophomore teammates in the top 15.

The Cougars, who shared the overall title with Alameda, finished with 45 points, three points better than second-place Piedmont (48).

Alameda (53), St. Joseph-Notre Dame (101), Salesian (116) and St. Mary's (147) rounded out the field of teams.

See GIRLS, Page 2

Pinole Valley wins on final play

■ Spartans' Crenshaw boots 29-yard field goal for 44-41 victory over El Cerrito; PV earns share of ACCAL football title

By Mike McGreehan

STAFF WRITER

A Hollywood screenwriter could not have done better than Friday evening's Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League football game between host El Cerrito High School and Pinole Valley. The game had all the elements of both great entertainment and exciting football: lots of drama, plenty of scoring and suspense to the end.

Given the game's tenor, most in attendance would have expected the outcome to hinge on which team had the ball last. And that's exactly what happened, as Pinole Valley's Dustin Crenshaw booted a 29-yard field goal on the last play from scrimmage to lift the Spartans to a 44-41 win and lock up at least a share of the ACCAL title.

The Spartans (8-1, 6-0 ACCAL at press time), who sweated out a 54-51 win against Alameda two weeks earlier. Pinole Valley won by forfeit over Richmond last week.

As was the case against Alameda High, the Spartans fell behind early but responded quickly. With 9:35 left in the third quarter, the Spartans appeared in control with a 35-21 lead.

El Cerrito (5-4, 3-3) made a strong comeback effort on two 1-yard scoring runs by Darnell Quinney to knot the score at 35 with 8:31 to go in the game. But when the Gauchos had possession deep in their own territory, Pinole Valley's Vertis Wilson stole the ball from Quinney to set up the Spartans at the El Cerrito 9-yard line. Deaundre Butcher ran in from 5 yards two plays later. El Cerrito, however, blocked Crenshaw's extra point

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS



GREGORY L. LOUIGAS/STAFF

BERKELEY quarterback Lucas Fogarty dives for a touchdown in the first quarter against Encinal. Berkeley won 39-7.

attempt, and the Spartans clung to a 41-35 lead.

Ultimately, the missed PAT did not come back to haunt Pinole Valley. Still, the play hung in the mind as JoEibert Dennis ran for a 59-yard Gauchos touchdown with 3:30 left. Pinole Valley, however, blocked Curtis Guay's extra-point attempt, as the score remained 41-41.

Dennis played a major role for the Gauchos with 14 carries for 262 yards. The senior also started the game with a touchdown run of 84 yards.

Berkeley 39, Encinal 7: Behind 206 yards rushing from Dwayne Adams and a defense that limited the visiting Jets to only 163 yards of total offense, the Yellow Jackets turned a slim 12-7 lead at halftime into a rout with 27 points in the second half Saturday to emerge victorious on Senior Day in Berkeley.

Berkeley (6-3, 5-1 ACCAL) struck first as Lucas Fogarty scored on a 1-yard quarterback

sneak early in the first quarter. The Yellow Jackets would only score one more time before the break.

Encinal (5-3-1, 4-2) was never able to capitalize on its defense's hard work as the offense had trouble running its veer offense against a fast Yellow Jackets front seven.

The Berkeley defense, led by linemen Willie Harris and William Mitchell, held the Jets' Antoine Young and Cyrus Grant to just 53 rushing yards on 18 carries.

St. Mary's 34, St. Patrick-St. Vincent 28: After all the positives

quarterback Eric Merrida did to help the Panthers a 34-28 win over the visiting Bruins on Saturday, he almost threw it all away with one errant pass.

With under a minute to play in the Bay Shore Athletic League game, all the Panthers had to do was run out the clock. But Merrida rolled to the right on 3rd- and 12- from his 20-yard line and

See BOYS, Page 2

Boys

FROM PAGE 1

threw an interception to the Bruins' Jason Garcia with 53 seconds left. The mistake gave surging St. Patrick (4-5, 3-1 Bay Shore Athletic League) one more shot at the end zone.

Merrida, who threw for 119 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another, would redeem himself.

"I had to get that play back," Merrida said. "I put my team in a tough situation."

The Bruins, who trailed 28-7 at one point, scored two consecutive touchdowns in the fourth quarter to cut the lead to six and were looking for a come-from-behind victory. But Merrida—who also plays defensive back—ended the Bruins' surge with an interception in the end zone with 13 seconds remaining to seal the win.

It was the second crucial defensive stand for the Panthers (5-4, 3-1 at press time) in the final two minutes. The first came when Sergio Larios and DonRico Washington sacked St. Patrick quarterback Max Schultz with 1:58 left with the Bruins facing a fourth-and-five situation on the 11-yard line.

Entering the final week of the regular season, St. Mary's, St. Patrick, Piedmont and John Swett were tied for the BSAL lead.



DEAN COPPOLA/STAFF

EL CERRITO'S JoElbert Dennis follows Kaya Fitzgerald on a run against Pinole Valley. Dennis gained 262 yards on 14 carries.

John Swett 62, Albany 0: The Indians scored on eight of their ten drives in a BSAL matchup against the host Cougars Saturday.

John Swett (4-5, 3-1 BSAL) running back Mark Anderson, one of 10 Indians to carry the ball, scored from 45 yards out on the team's first play from scrimmage to ignite the offense. Anderson finished the game with 85 yards on the ground.

Albany (0-8-1, 0-4 at press time) finished with 80 yards on offense.

CROSS COUNTRY

BSAL championship meet: St. Mary's finished second as a

team, led by Rob Riccardi's eighth-place finish. He ran the 3.06-mile Joaquin Miller Park course in 18 minutes, 52 seconds. The Panthers had a team score of 74 points.

Berkeley, led by Sebastian Schwelm's sixth-place finish (18:48), was fourth with 97 points. Albany, paced by Colin Bauer's fifth-place finish (18:47), was fifth with 106 points.

Staff writers Ricardo Sanchez Jr., Gabe Feletar and Phil Jensen, and correspondent Ben Enos contributed to this roundup.

PREP FOOTBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	De La Salle	7-2	Spartans roll over Deer Valley, could be tested by Ygnacio Valley
2.	Monte Vista	9-0	Mustangs clinch outright EBAL title with win over Amador Valley
3.	McClymonds	8-1	Warriors still perfect in OAL play after pasting Skyline 43-13
4.	San Leandro	9-0	Pirates host Hayward in showdown for HAAL title
5.	Foothill	7-2	Falcons eke out 38-34 victory over surprising Liberty
6.	Ygnacio Valley	7-2	Warriors pound Freedom, take on rival De La Salle this week
7.	California	7-2	Grizzlies stumble against San Ramon Valley
8.	Amador Valley	7-2	Dons can't hold off Monte Vista, rivalry game at Foothill this week
9.	Pinole Valley	8-1	All offense, no defense for ACCAL champion Spartans
10.	Hayward	8-1	Farmers are unbeaten in HAAL entering decisive game at San

Others receiving votes: Benicia (7-1). The football poll incorporates all East Bay high schools.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

To submit an item to the What's Happening calendar, e-mail sports@cc-times.com to request a form. Put "What's Happening" in the subject line. Nonprofit organizations only. You may be asked to submit a copy of your 1099 or 501(c)(3) to verify nonprofit status. Entries are edited for content and are published as space is available.

BASKETBALL

■ **California Ballaz** — Registration for girls, ages 9-11, for league based in Berkeley. Leroy Hurt, 415-850-7001 or e-mail leroyh@bncbuilders.com.

BASEBALL

■ **San Pablo Baseball Association** — Early registration for upcoming season, for boys and girls, Nov. 19,

2:30-5:30 p.m. at Maple Hall, 1 Alvarado Square. Family discounts available. Bring proof of date of birth and residency. Bob, 510-986-9220.

CROSS COUNTRY

■ **Amateur Athletic Union** — Cross Country Championships, ages 10U-18, Nov. 19, noon, Sunset Park, 1055 Geneva St., Livermore. Top 20 finishers receive medals and qualify for National Cross Country meet in Rock Hill, S.C. \$15. Registration: www.aathletics.org. Rik Richardson, 925-862-0855 (home) or 925-518-9356 (cell).

FLAG FOOTBALL

■ **Hayward Flag Football** — 4-on-4 tournament, Nov. 19 in Hayward at location and time to be determined.

Deadline to register at Chuck, 510-807-0148 or flag_fun@yahoo.com.

■ **Albany/Berkeley Clinic** — Free clinical professional female coaches grades 2-9, Nov. 12 and 13 at Grove/Russell field at King Jr. Way and Albany. RSVP required. 4277, e-mail clivinc@abgsj.org.

■ **Albany High School** for girls head junior varsity coach. Season begins Nov. 14. Summe to Debbie Warren.

Girls

FROM PAGE 1

"I wasn't surprised," said Albany coach Al Baker about his team's performance.

"Our only league loss was to Alameda by one point, and the girls promised me they would avenge that loss."

Quinn paced the Cougars' young trio, finishing fourth with a time of 22 minutes, 48 seconds for the 3.06-mile course. Lincoff was fifth in 22:57 and Buck-Bauer 11th in 24:02.

"It's really a hard course because of the hills," said Quinn. "I feel I played it a little too conservative at first."

Even with the conservative start, it would have been tough to catch Alameda's Devaja Shafer. Shafer finished first in 22:17, 23 seconds faster than Salesian's Lora Marchini (22:40), who was second.

St. Mary's finished sixth with 147 points.

VOLLEYBALL

Berkeley d. Encinal: The Yellow Jackets moved into a first-place Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League tie with the Jets, as they beat visiting Encinal 23-25, 25-14, 17-25, 25-18, 15-10 on Tuesday.

If Encinal and Berkeley won Thursday in their final regular-season matches, there would be a playoff Saturday at 7 p.m. at Encinal to decide the ACCAL champion. Results of Thursday's matches were not available at press time.

The Yellow Jackets (17-7, 12-1 ACCAL) received nine kills and 19 digs from Megan Hourula, 16 digs and 32 assists from Katie Cuan, and 10 kills from Natalie Gaber in the big victory.

Berkeley d. Richmond: Emily Carver served eight aces and Cuan had 14 kills in the Yellow Jackets' 25-9, 25-15, 25-12 victory over the host Oilers on Nov. 3.

Albany d. Salesian: The visiting Cougars (22-7, 12 BSAL)

clinched the top seed in the BSAL playoffs with a 25-16, 29-27, 25-13 win over Salesian on Nov. 2. Jana Poole had 12 kills for Albany, and teammate Caitlyn Giblin passed for 24 assists in the win. Results of Thursday's BSAL playoff semifinal match were unavailable at press time.

St. Mary's d. Piedmont: The Panthers finished the regular season on a high note by beating host Piedmont 25-5, 25-15, 25-16 on Nov. 3.

Tarah Murrey had 16 kills and 16 digs to lead the Panthers (25-6, 12-1 BSAL). Natalie Bogan added 10 kills, seven blocks and three digs for St. Mary's. Results of Thursday's BSAL playoff semifinal match were unavailable at press time.

Alameda d. El Cerrito: Tessa Tasuskin had 16 kills, five blocks and three digs, but the host Gauchos (8-11, 6-7 ACCAL) were unable to defeat the Hornets, who won 21-25, 28-26, 25-18, 25-13 on Tuesday. Sarah Price passed for 16 assists and had eight ser-

vice points for El Cerrito.

El Cerrito d. Hercules: Price had 22 assists and Tasuskin had eight blocks and eight digs to lead the visiting Gauchos to a 13-25, 25-19, 26-24, 28-26 win in this Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League match on Nov. 3. Nazzee Mogahdham had five kills for the Gauchos.

TENNIS

BSAL championships: Two St. Mary's doubles teams fell in the semifinals of the tournament on Nov. 2. Lauren Lopez and Laura Knowles lost to eventual champions Olivia Stutz and Gabby Yao-Cohen of Piedmont 6-2, 6-1. The Panthers' Stephanie Conn and Jenna Starkey fell to Sally Baker and Alex Corvin of Piedmont 6-3, 6-1. Albany's Elena Pan lost in the singles semifinals to eventual champion Mary Ann Kao of Piedmont 6-1, 6-1.

Staff writers Phil Jensen and Dave Carpenter contributed to this roundup.

Under-14 ABSC Panthers win title at Fremont

A goal from Manuel Ramirez lifted the ABSC Panthers under-14 Class III boys team to a 1-0 win over the Tiburon Titans to take the championship of the FC Fremont Kick or Treat Invitational.

Ramirez scored the eventual winning goal 15 minutes into the game on a 90-foot shot. The Panthers defense then held that lead the rest of the game.

The Panthers opened the tournament with a 2-2 tie with Mt. Diablo. Matt Olson scored a first-half goal for the Panthers, who were tied 1-1 at halftime with Mt. Diablo. Ramirez produced the Panthers' second goal.

In their second game, the Panthers overwhelmed Magic 91-50. Olson scored the team's first two goals. Ramirez also had two

goals, and Trevor Warren for the Panthers. Then the Panthers' Newark Kings 1-0 in the finals. Ramirez scored half on a free kick, but the Panthers' defense held off the relentless attack.

Information provided by Panthers.

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Question: What should I do to my car for winter?

Answer: From Sean Stephens, Owner, Bob's Volvo-Toyota Specialists

1. Check your tires. All of your tires should be in good condition. This means even wear on all, no damage to side walls or evidence of dry rot (cracking). Driving with worn tires decreases your ability to stop and to accelerate. Tire blowouts are dangerous.
2. Have your engine coolant replaced if it has not been changed within the past two years. Major services like 60,000-, 90,000- and 120,000-mile services include engine coolant replacement. However, if your car has not had one of these services and you don't remember requesting that the coolant be changed, chances are it's old. Old coolant may not hold up for the winter.
3. Check your wiper blades. If your wiper blades are a year old and your car isn't parked in a garage regularly, they probably aren't wiping as well as new ones would. Try a new set and see the difference.
4. Check your lights. Repair any lights that are out. It could be just a simple bulb replacement that you could do at home. You see better and other cars will see you if all your lights are functioning. Besides, you risk getting ticketed due to a light malfunction.
5. Examine your battery. Excessive corrosion reduces your battery power. Have it tested if it's three years old or older. Batteries five years and older should be replaced. Remember, your car uses the most electrical power in the winter and this really puts strain on your battery. I hope this answers some of the questions you have about winter driving.

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Movies

FROM PAGE C3

guins can more than stand alone. Still, this is the perfect family movie. —M. Pols. (G) 1 hour, 20 minutes. B+

"MIRORMASK": This fantasy follows the odyssey of 15-year-old Helena, who has a life most kids would relish. She travels with her parents in a circus, but longs for a normal existence. Helena is overcome with guilt when her mother falls seriously ill after a bitter fight. She retreats into a fantasy world in which her mother is both good queen and bad queen; the girl must retrieve a magic charm to help the good queen. —P. Wuntch. (PG: scary images.) 1 hour, 51 minutes. A-

"NBT NEVER BEEN THAWED": This fake documentary is a deadpan, intermittently funny investigation of a group of desperately dorky frozen-food collectors — the Mesa Frozen Entree Enthusiasts' Club — who amass Swanson and Stouffer's entrees the way some people treasure vintage baseball cards. The films lack narrative drive, but the Phoenix comedy troupe Slippery Chicken, which created it, percolates with comic talent. —S. Holden. (Not rated.) 1 hour, 27 minutes. C

"NINE LIVES": Filmmaker Rodrigo Garcia has rounded up a huge, lusty cast and accomplished an impressive feat with his medley of nine short films about women. The performances are remarkable, the actors (Robin Wright Penn, Holly Hunter, Sissy Spacek, Kathy Baker, to name a few) clearly reveling in the theatrical flourish of shooting their scenes in one continuous take. While the women dominate, the men provide tremendous support. —D. Germain. (R: language, brief sexual content, some disturbing images.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. C+

"NORTH COUNTRY": Charlize Theron delivers another Oscar-worthy performance as a Minnesota mother of two who stands up to on-the-job sexual harassment and changes history. Director Niki Caro ("Whale Rider") creates another strong female character in this based-on-a-true-story account that falters only when it enters the courtroom. A powerful and worthwhile film, even though the lead character is pure fiction. With Frances McDormand and Sissy Spacek. —R. Myers. (R: sequences involving sexual harassment, including violence and dialogue, also language.) 2 hours, 3 minutes. B

"PARADISE NOW": Even though we know the film focuses on what might be the final 48 hours in the lives of suicide bombers, when we meet Said and Khaled, our reaction is: "It can't be them." A pair of regular-guys, these genial, empathetic slackers have been close friends since childhood. What can lead an individual to act on the boast "he who is not afraid of death is in control of life"? The film seeks to answer this, and its determination not to take sides is what makes it so effective. —K. Turan. (PG-13: mature thematic material, brief strong language; in Arabic with subtitles.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. A

"PRIME": Uma Thurman is Rafi, 37, and newly divorced. Dave (Bryan Greenberg), at 23, is a swinging, callow hipster who hasn't figured out women. The two meet, have a date and hit it off. The kicker in this featherweight comedy — heavy on the Jewish boy/Jewish mom schtick — is that Rafi bares her soul about this sexy new infatuation with her shrink (Meryl Streep), who soon realizes the boy in question is her son. And she doesn't approve. —R. Moore. (PG-13: sexual content including dialogue; language.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. B

"ROLL BOUNCE": In this '70s roller boogie comedy-drama-romance, Bow Wow plays Xavier (or "X"), who pals around with his skate buddies. The whole endeavor is set against the backdrop of the socioeconomic disparity between Chicago's South Side — where X and his friends live — and the wealthier North Side, where they're forced to skate once their run-down local rink closes. It's all formulaic, but Bow Wow is likable enough to make most of the movie tolerable. —C. Lemire. (PG-13: language, some crude humor.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. C+

"SAW II": The surprise horror hit of last year spawns a gory sequel that is effective and deadly serious about what it wants to do. A terminally ill serial killer named Jigsaw toys with a burnt-out detective as he tortures eight misfits, including the cop's son, in a booby-trapped house. "Saw II" is better made than the first. "Saw," but it could use a jolt of camp. —R. Myers. (R: strong violence, drug use, language and sexuality.) 1 hour, 31 minutes. C+

"SERENITY": This follow-up to the canceled cult TV series "Firefly" combines classic elements of Westerns and science fiction, but sharp writing and well-drawn characters mean you can enjoy it even if you don't like those genres. Or if you don't have a history with the characters. —C. Hewitt. (PG-13: intense violence and action, some sexual references.) 1 hour, 58 minutes. B-

"SHOPGIRL": Steve Martin stars in this romantic comedy based on his own novella of the same name. Mirabelle Buttersfield (Claire Danes) sells gloves at Saks Fifth Avenue in Beverly Hills. Mostly, she stands behind a counter, removed from the main retail action. What she needs, Martin's introductory voice-over tells us, is someone to recognize and appreciate her, to pluck her out from the crowd. The movie itself does this, and so do her two suitors who become unwitting rivals for Mirabelle's affection (Martin and Jason Schwartzbaum). —A.O. Scott. (R: some sexuality, brief language.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. A

"THE SQUID AND THE WHALE": Jeff Daniels merits serious Academy Award consideration for his performance in this tale of bitter divorce and family breakdown. He plays Bernard, a writing professor and novelist whose talent is drying up, and who grows increasingly sour over his wife's (Laura Linney) rising fortunes as a writer. All this couple has left to offer their kids is rancor. The decision to split up and share custody quickly follows. —D. Germain. (R: strong sexual content, graphic dialogue, language.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. B+

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

POUNDING THE PAVEMENT BY ELIZABETH C. GORSKI / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- Scientific research center
 - Belittling sort
 - Bills, e.g.
 - Two of fifty
 - Brush aside
 - Feeling
 - Italian province or its capital
 - Sharp-penned Maureen
 - Strong-arm
 - "Apart," 2003 Vin Diesel flick
 - Low in fat
 - Person seen in court
 - Free service started in 1905
 - Nobel Prize subj.
 - AT&T acquisition of 1991
 - Travel between the poles?
 - Irving Berlin's "A Piano"
 - Caleandar abbot
 - Popular 1970's 80's vocal-harmony quartet
 - 1930's-50's actor J. Naish
 - Nastase of tennis
 - Cross
 - Is beholden to
 - Reacts to, as a joke
 - More than exasperation
 - 1993 Robert De Niro film
 - 59 Military jets
 - The Supreme Court, e.g.
 - Snorkler's interest
 - First prize at the 1992 Olympics
 - One who's an ologist, maybe
 - Major industry of Maletia
 - What thousands do on the first Sunday of every November
 - Best way to drive
 - Do some carb-loading, e.g.
 - Printer problem
 - Bird call
 - Best, as advice
 - Furtive
 - Teens with tias
 - Laugh sound
 - "C'est magnifique!"
 - "Cost you!"
 - Ingredient in Cookies 'n Cream ice cream
 - Bowed, in music
 - Fixes up, as a ship
 - What people follow when they 67-
 - Across
 - Turndowns
 - Month in Madrid
 - Nancy Drew's guy
 - Advanced degree
 - Bern's river
 - Classic best seller by Betty Smith
 - Bullwinkle, for one
 - 1890's vesp
 - P. Morton
 - "David Copperfield" wife
 - Sight from Turkey
 - Soviet relations
 - Goon
 - Opposit
 - Works with the hands
 - Shooting marble
 - Ready to come out of the 109-Down
 - Boxer's punch
 - Regret
- DOWN**
- Lighter handle?
 - Pranker's cry
 - Operative prince
 - Cable channel for kids
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 - Polisio Richards
 - Calypto kin
 - Fivers
 - Mail Boxes
 - Cut
 - 1959 Wimbledon winner
 - Olmedo
 - Buster Brown's dog
 - Turn's partner
 - Translation material
 - Not your ordinary film director
 - Beam at the very top of a house
 - Expressiveness
 - Operative prince
 - Cable channel for kids
 - Apart from others
 - Work on more, as a farmer might
 - Irish runner
 - Coghan
 - Ornate wall hanging
 - 1950's sitcom starring Ethel Waters
 - Go back
 - Don't just seem
 - "South Park" boy
 - Female deer
 - Collectible Fords
 - 56, timeless
 - Try to avoid hitting
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Events

FROM PAGE C4

PEÑA CULTURAL CENTER —
Fiesta en Calles Annu. Festival: Nov. 11 and Nov. 12, 8 p.m. Music and dance featuring Casique y Congo, So-
lano and Carne Cruda on Friday, Spo-
n and word group Las Manas, poet Joe
Hernandez Kalski and spoken word
and music group Los Able Minded
on Saturday. \$10 general; \$7
students.

SHATTUCK AVE., BERKELEY, (510) 528-2586 or www.lapena.org.
LAKE MERRITT DANCE CENTER —
Dance With Me: 3rd Annual Black and
White Ball. Nov. 12, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
An evening of elegant 1930s and
1940s ballroom, swing and Latin
dance featuring the Dave Art Orches-
tra and vocalist Judy Ferreira. Dance
and vocalists at 7 p.m. \$35.

160 Grand Ave., Harrison, (510) 523-
5587 or www.dancethroughme.info/.
MILLS COLLEGE —
College Repertory Dance Com-
pany. Nov. 11 and Nov. 12. The com-
pany performs works by Martha Gra-
ham and others. At Lissner Hall. Friday,
8 p.m.; Saturday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.
\$15 general, \$10 students and se-
niors. (510) 430-2175.

1400 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, (510) 430-2175 or www.mills.edu.

SHATTUCK DOWN LOW —
Live Salsa. Ongoing. An evening of
dancing to the music of a live salsa
band. The night opens with beginning
lessons at 8 p.m. and intermediate
lessons at 8:45 p.m. Wednesdays, 8
p.m. \$10 general, \$5 students.
ages 21 and older. 2284 Shattuck
Ave., Berkeley, (510) 548-1159 or
www.shattuckdownlow.com.

STANLEY PLOUGH PUB —
Live Music and Dance. Ongoing. Traditional
live music and dance. The evening
begins with dance lesson at 7 p.m.
Followed by music at 9 p.m. Mondays,
8 p.m. Free.
ages 21 and over unless otherwise
noted. Sunday and Wednesday, 8
p.m.; Thursday through Saturday,
9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.
1201 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, (510) 841-2001 or
www.stanleyploughpub.com.

EXHIBITS

ACCI GALLERY —
Light: A Glass Exhibition. "Nov. 17 through Dec. 3. An exhibit of
works by five Northern California
artists."

ACCI GALLERY —
Nov. 17, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Nov. 18, Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to
6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
1602 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, (510) 841-2007 or www.accigallery.com.

ACCI ART CENTER —
"Photography." Nov. 4 through Nov. 24.
Exhibit of 2-D and 3-D art celebrat-
ing food, wine and other culinary in-
terests.

ACCI ART CENTER —
Tuesday through Saturday, 11
a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5

p.m. 1701 Webster St., Alameda.
(510) 748-7888 or www.alamedaart-center.org.

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF THE ARTS, OLIVER ART CENTER

"Aesthetics of Ecology: Occupying
Space for Sustainable Living." Nov. 16
through Dec. 8. A juried exhibit of
works emphasizing sustainable living.
In the Tecoa Bruce Gallery.

Reception, Nov. 16, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
(415) 703-9595.

Free. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to
noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. 5212
Broadway, Oakland, (510) 594-3600
or www.cca.edu.

CENTER FOR PHOTOGRAPHY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

"Photographs by Li Zhenheng." Aug.
28 through Dec. 17. An exhibit of pho-
tographs documenting some of the
history of China's Cultural Revolution
by the artist. Li is a former photog-
rapher for a Communist-owned daily
newspaper who went on to form his
own rebel group at the newspaper in
order to be able to photograph the
Cultural Revolution.

Free. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to
5 p.m. UC Berkeley Graduate School
of Journalism, 121 North Gate Hall,
Hearst and Euclid avenues, Berkeley.
(510) 642-3383 or
<http://journalism.berkeley.edu>.

HALL OF PIONEERS GALLERY

"Oakland Chinatown Pioneers." Ongo-
ing. Twelve showcases, each focusing
on historic leaders and personalities
of the community.

Free. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to
3 p.m. Chinese Garden Building, 275
Seventh St., Oakland, (510) 530-4590.

KALA ART INSTITUTE

The 2005 James D. Phelan Art Award in
Printmaking Exhibition, Oct. 19
through Dec. 3. An exhibit of works by
this year's winners: Jesse Gottesman,
Cynthia Ona Innis and Matthew Hop-
son-Walker.

Free. Tuesday through Friday, noon to
5:30 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4:30
p.m. 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley, (510) 549-2977 or www.kala.org.

OAKLAND ART GALLERY

"Playful Poetics." Oct. 12 through Nov.
19. An exhibit of works by four artists
who explore the psychology of toys
and play.

Free. Wednesday and Thursday, 11
a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 5
p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. 199
Kahn's Alley, Oakland, (510) 637-0395
or www.oaklandartgallery.org.

OAKLAND ASIAN CULTURAL CENTER

"Oakland's 19th-Century San Pablo Ave-
nue Chinatown." Ongoing. A perma-
nent exhibit of new findings about the
rediscovered Chinatown on San Pablo
Avenue. The exhibit aims to inform
visitors about the upcoming archaeo-
logical work planned to explore the
lives of early Chinese pioneers in the
1860s.

Free. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to
5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

See EVENTS, Page C8



location.
space.
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The Winning Combination.

1,544 - 1,623 sq. ft. ■ 2 - 3 Bedroom ■ 2 - 3 Bath ■ Attached 2-Car Garage

Great value for total square footage

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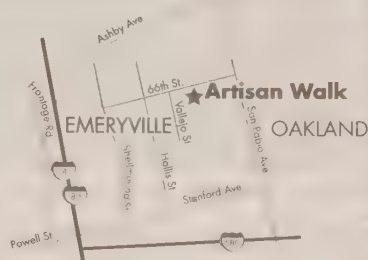
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An unwavering focus on kids.

When all you do is help kids get better, something wonderful happens: they make *you* better. Because our doctors, nurses and other specialists work exclusively with kids every day, they see the subtle things others could miss. They find where it hurts when a child is too young to tell them. And they know it takes more than advanced pediatric medicine to speed a child's recovery. It takes an entire organization focused on all of a child's needs. Including the need to simply be a child. That's why, along with some of the world's most sophisticated treatment and technology, you'll also see an art therapist working with kids at their bedsides. A pediatric anesthesiologist using toys to relax a 3-year-old before surgery. And an endless array of other comforts for children, not just because we love them, but also because we understand the science behind giving them a sense of well-being.

We can do all this because we are the only independent children's hospital in Northern California. That means all of our resources, and all of our people throughout the Bay Area, are focused on kids, and only kids. It's why so many children get better here. And why you would want to ensure your child has access to this level of care, should it ever be needed.

For more information, or to find one of our doctors, visit www.childrenshospitaloakland.org.



**CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
& RESEARCH CENTER OAKLAND**

Undivided attention. Unsurpassed care.™



THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu



Starters

Tomatina Garlic Rolle extra virgin olive oil, oregano and GARLICIL (SIDE MARINARA .75) 2.95

Soup roasted tomato with garlic croutons and a drizzle of basil pesto 4.75

Parmesan Crusted Polenta with tomato basil sauce 4.75

Bruschetta toasted bread with basil pesto, fresh mozzarella, oven-dried tomatoes, field greens and tomato vinaigrette 4.95

Pan-Roasted Mussels garlic, white wine and pesto 6.75

Pizzetta crisp, thin pizza dough with gorgonzola cheese, sweet caramelized onions and marsala wine glazed pears

Salads

small large

Mediterranean baby spinach, black olives, tomatoes cucumbers, red onion, peperoncini peppers, feta cheese with rosemary red wine vinaigrette 4.75 6.50

Caesar hearts of Romaine, homemade dressing, garlic croutons and parmesan 4.95 6.95 (add chicken 1.50)

Mixed Greens with gorgonzola cheese, candied walnuts, dried cranberries, red onion & honey mustard vinaigrette 5.25 6.95

"Antipasto Style" Chopped Salad with salami, mozzarella cheese, olives, peperoncini, tomato, garbanzo beans, red onion and a creamy balsamic vinaigrette 5.25 6.95

Winter Platter white bean salad with fresh melted mozzarella, sundried tomatoes, broth, carpers, kalamata olives, chopped parsley, field greens and a drizzle of extra virgin olive oil. Served warm on a slice of toasted Fugliese bread 6.95

Kids Menu (10 and under only)

Caesar Salad ~ with house dressing, parmesan cheese & croutons 2.50

Warm vegetable plate ~ baby carrots, celery & spinach

Stuffed flat bread ~ with cheddar cheese and side of marinara sauce for dipping

Mac and Cheese ~ pasta with creamy cheddar cheese sauce

Spaghetti & Meatball ~ with tomato sauce & parmesan

Noodles & Sauce ~ Spaghetti or Rigatoni with butter & parmesan, cream sauce or tomato sauce

Ravioli ~ three cheese ravioli & tomato sauce

Pizza ~ tomato-n-cheese or other vegetable topping ~ pepperoni, sausage or chicken 4.75 5.00

Pladine warm-from-the-oven flatbread topped with cold salad-fold & eat like a sandwich!

Caesar hearts of Romaine, homemade Caesar dressing roasted garlic pesto & parmesan (add chicken 1.50) 7.95

Gorgonzola arrigular, red onion, tomato and red wine vinaigrette 7.95

Caprese hearts of Romaine, fresh mozzarella, oven-dried tomatoes, pesto, balsamic vinaigrette and parmesan 7.95

Chicken Baby spinach, roasted red peppers, mozzarella, roasted red pepper and garlic paste with citrus vinaigrette 7.95

Porchetta shredded braised pork pancetta, Romaine hearts, oven-dried tomatoes, kalamata olives, parmesan cheese, sun dried tomato aioli and citrus vinaigrette 7.95

Skirt Steak balsamic marinade, lettuce, tomato, red onion, cucumber, roasted garlic paste and ranch dressing 7.95

Turkey roasted turkey breast, cilantro aroli, mixed greens, red onion, feta cheese and red wine vinaigrette 7.95

Juanita's
Home Style Mexican Cooking

FULL BARI
MARGARITAS ARE
OUR SPECIALTY

Something New!
Treat yourself to a
traditional Mexican
feast.

Buy 1
lunch get
2nd lunch
free!

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not combined w/any other offer.

Breakfast 7am - 11am • Open until 3am daily • Take-out orders welcome
1324 Park St., Alameda 865-2588 Fax 865-2230

Amarin Thai Cuisine

1332 C Park St., Alameda CA 94501 (510) 748-0296

For 16 years, we have catered to Alameda with delicious, award-winning food and warm service in a friendly atmosphere. Make a normal day, your special day, by dining here at Amarin Thai. Celebrate Special Occasions every Wednesday. We recognize and value your patronage and are offering 10% discount off your dining experience. Celebrate families every Saturday. Our family is very important to us and so is yours! Bring in your family and dine with us and receive a 10% off your meal. Our private banquet facility can accommodate large parties with great service and scrumptious food. Celebrate your holidays at Amarin Thai with Delicious, inviting, and affordable holiday planning. We are offering 10% off parties of 20 or more on reservations by December 15th.

Café Enrico

Since 1978, 875D Island Drive, Alameda, (510) 522-0128

For fine Italian dining at its best, visit Café Enrico overlooking the beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon. Full bar service features special cocktails daily with exceptional wine selections. From gourmet seafood plates to Old World pastas, chicken dishes, sandwiches and even a dieter's menu, Café Enrico truly offers something to please everyone. In fact, many guests dine in two and three times a week. House specialty steamed (Manila clams and fresh seafood cioppino) are not to be missed. Café Enrico is open daily. Sat & Sun Brunch is served until 3 pm and Early Bird Specials (12.95) are served Mon-Fri until 6 pm and Sat & Sun until 5 pm. For Reservations, please call (510) 522-0129. MC, Visa, AME, handicap access. Casual attire. \$5

El Cabello

891B Island Drive (Harbor Bay Island), Alameda, (510) 521-4032

Family-owned El Cabello Mexican Restaurant has had a long-standing reputation for preparing delicious traditional dishes from scratch using nothing but the freshest ingredients of the highest quality. El Cabello is famous for their Especialidades De Mariscos (seafood specialties) including Paela Enilo Catalina, Cioppino Siete Madres, Enchiladas Cabo San Lucas, and many others. In addition to delicious seafood entrees, El Cabello offers an impressive menu of Mexican favorites to please every palate. The family and staff at El Cabello have made it their utmost priority to offer you, their guests, a pleasant and relaxing dining experience. You are invited to enjoy authentic Mexican dining with a view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon.

Juanita's

1324 Park Street, Alameda (510) 865-2588

Juanita's has been serving home style Mexican cooking since 1975 to generations of Bay Area diners. Patrons enjoy a margarita or cold cerveza at Juanita's with their choice of delicious Mexican appetizers and entrees. Including everyone's favorite - tacos, enchiladas, and fajitas. AC \$5 FB W

Katsu Sushi

1465 Webster Street, Alameda, (510) 749-8461

West Alameda's newest restaurant, Katsu Sushi, invites guests to an upscale dining experience with classic simplicity. Chef Sang Kim prepares all dishes from scratch and seafood is brought in fresh, directly from Japan. The menu is extensive, ranging from an extraordinary selection of sushi and sashimi, Udon/Soba, Donburi (over rice dishes), to pasta and an impressive variety of sake. Architect Duk Lee has created a dramatic backdrop for guests, marrying modern art with traditional design elements. Attention to even the most minor aesthetic detail is also mirrored in the elegant presentation of Katsu's dishes, offerings that are as much a work of art to the palate as to the eye. Katsu is open for lunch M-F from 11:30am to 2:30pm and open for dinner every day from 5-9:30pm. Reservations recommended.

Montclair Bistro

6118 Medau Place, Montclair Village, (510) 482-8282

Chief Henry Vortreide's philosophy of his restaurant, Montclair Bistro, is Metrix Cuisine, which he finds is "a synergy between the food on the table, the art on the walls, and the ambience of the restaurant. The result is a feeling of comfort and harmony between the food and the surroundings." The Bistro's cuisine is Creative California with a French Flare and offers gourmet delicacies for even the most discriminating palate. The dining experience is enhanced with a full bar and more than 150 wines and Vintage Ports. Montclair Bistro offers lunch, dinner, Happy Hour and Sunday Brunch. Please visit our ad for hours of operation. Reservations are recommended but not required. Visit www.montclairbistro.com.

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621

Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York steak, prime ribs, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular early bird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. Brunch - Lunch - Dinner.

Sushi House

2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999

When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals and out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses w/unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado, "Crazy Monkey" - yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail, salmon, tuna & halibut deep fried w/house special sauce - spicy! Frequent Sushi House diners John & Sallie Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist & his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda! AE MC VS \$5

Café Enrico
Italian Restaurant

Thanksgiving Dinner Menu

Roasted Turkey with Trimmings.....\$18.95
Honey Baked Ham with Glazed Pineapple.....\$19.95
Salmon Oscar.....\$23.95
Osso Buco.....\$23.95
Prime Rib.....\$27.95

Soup, Salad, Pumpkin Dessert,
Pumpkin Cranberry Bash
Children Under 12 \$14.95
Open 7 days a week
12:00 - 9:00pm

Please Call (510) 522-0129 for Reservation



1332 C Park St
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Sushi House

japanese restaurant & sushi bar
Beautiful Alameda Location Overlooking Water

Business Hours
Sunday - Thursday
From 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM
Friday & Saturday
From 11:00 AM to 10:30 PM

2375 Shoreline Drive,
Alameda, California 94501
www.e-sushihouse.com

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fax: 510-865-2404

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Dinner
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Fri & Sat 5-10pm
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for lunch or brunch

OR

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dinner with a purchase of any

two entrees when you

present this ad

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510.482.8282

Thanksgiving Day

Pier 29
Waterfront Restaurant
Seafood/Prime Rib/Steak/Lobster/Cocktail

Open: 1pm to 7pm

Special Dinner menu and full dinner menu
available for your Holiday enjoyment.

SPECIAL DINNERS:

(1) Roasted Turkey Dinner.....\$15.95
(2) Honey Baked Ham Dinner.....\$15.95

Includes Soup or Salad
Mashed Potato
Steamed Vegetables
Dressing
Gravy
Yams

DESSERT:

Homemade Pumpkin Cheesecake
with Macadamia Nut Crust

For Reservations please call (510) 261-1621
300 29th Avenue, Oakland, Ca 94601

THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu

Pasta

Orecchiette "little ear" shaped pasta with roasted butternut squash, shitake and crimini mushrooms, pancetta, spinach, garlic, parmesan and chicken broth	8.75
Lasagna Italian sausage, oven roasted tomato sauce, fontina, mozzarella, ricotta and fresh basil	8.95
Mama's Spaghetti & Meatballs braised with tomato sauce and parmesan	8.95
Fettuccine with roasted chicken, spinach, fresh oregano and tomato parmesan cream sauce	9.25
Ricotto roasted zucchini, red onion, bell pepper, tomato sauce, basil, butter and parmesan cheese	9.75
Spaghettini with chopped clams, garlic, chili flakes, fresh oregano, parsley and white wine butter sauce	9.75

aPizza

Tomatina's favorites...	small	large
Margherita tomato sauce, mozzarella and basil	8.95	13.75
Mediterranean tomato sauce, roasted eggplant, roasted red pepper, oregano and parmesan	8.95	13.75
The Garden tomato sauce, roasted garlic paste, mozzarella, roasted red pepper, spinach, sauteed mushrooms, red onion, kalamata olives and oregano	12.50	17.50
Pesto Pomodoro with pureed fresh basil, garlic olive oil and toasted pine nuts, mozzarella cheese and vine ripened tomatoes	12.50	17.50
Sausage and Leek fennel sausage, fontina cheese, sauteed leeks, olive oil, garlic and parmesan cheese	12.50	17.50

"Spicy" Three cheese 12.50 17.50
with a blend of feta, fontina & mozzarella cheese, roasted garlic paste, prosciutto, pepperoncino, onions and fresh parsley

Carne Combo 13.95 18.95
tomato sauce, mozzarella, pepperoni, fennel sausage, prosciutto and sauteed mushrooms

Pesto Chicken 13.95 18.95
tomato sauce, mozzarella, roasted chicken, roasted red pepper, sundried tomato and basil pesto

Calzone meatballs with three cheeses, mixed herbs and topped with tomato sauce 8.95

Or...Create your own

aPizza starts homemade dough, organic tomato sauce and mozzarella

Small (Serves 1 to 2) 6 slices 8.95
Large (Serves 3 to 4) 12 slices 13.75

1 item add 2.25 2 items add 3.50 3 items add 4.75 4 items add 6.00 up to 5 items add 7.25

arugula	spinach	feta cheese
fresh tomatoes	roasted eggplant	chicken
roasted garlic paste	basil pesto	prosciutto
goat cheese	red onions	fennel sausage
jalapenos	roasted red pepper	Hobb's salami
Kalamata olives	sundried tomatoes	pancetta
sauteed mushrooms	gorgonzola cheese	pepperoni
pepperoncino's		

Save Room for **DESSERT**

~Mini rootbeer float ~ Sorbetto ~ Vanilla gelato & chocolate sauce 1.75

At Tomatina, we strive to provide you with uncompromising customer service, fresh and consistently prepared cuisine with value in a fun, friendly and enjoyable atmosphere. We want your meal to be an enjoyable experience if you have any food sensitivities or allergies, please let us know.

Tomatina

1338 Park Street, Alameda (510) 521-1000

Tomatina is a Bay Area favorite for pizza, pasta, piadine and more! Our house-made pizza dough, dressings and sauces keep our food ahead of the rest. We update our menu several times a year to showcase seasonal produce, introduce new selections and keep our wine and beer selections exciting. Recently we introduced autumn flavors such as mushrooms, roasted tomatoes, white beans and squashes as well as a warm apple crisp and dense, fudgy chocolate cake. We pride ourselves on fresh, flavorful dishes, excellent service and a casual atmosphere as well as attractive and clean restaurants. We offer something for every guest: anything from lunch with friends and co-workers, a quick meal before a movie with the family or a casual spot for a first date. Come hungry: from garlic roll to start and tiramisu to finish, we have what you want to eat! Check out our complete menu at www.tomatina.com. Restaurant Hours: 11:30 am to 10:00 pm. No reservations, first come, first seated. Large groups (10+) are encouraged to call ahead. Cash, DC, V, MC, AE, no checks.



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Café Ya 'sou

1265 Harbor Bay Parkway #100, Alameda, (510) 522-7991
Café Ya 'sou takes guests on a culinary journey to the Mediterranean, bringing the flavors of Greece and her neighbors to Alameda. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, Ya 'sou has a reputation for pleasing guests with old-fashioned Greek specialties created by Stelios. Try one of many home-style entrees, including Moussaka, Spanikopita, Tiropitakia, Osso Buco, and Dolmas (Greek sampler) to name only a few. Vegetarian entrees are available upon request. Greek desserts, cakes pastries from old family recipes are not to be missed. Catering is also a specialty at Café Ya 'sou, offering delicious sit-down or buffet-style dinners for private parties, corporate events, weddings and more. A catered Sunday brunch can be arranged for your church or community center. Café Ya 'sou is located at 1265 Harbor Bay Pkwy #100 in Alameda. (510) 522-7991.

Kamakura

2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda (510) 521-9121
Faith Yamato and the chefs of Kamakura present SHARI, the highest quality of rice that envelopes Sushi. The best short grain premium rice available in the USA is used for Kamakura's Sushi. The "Tamanishiki" brand of rice definitely provides the decisive edge in Sushi quality and taste. Following centuries-old Japanese culinary practice, the rice is gently steamed, then seasoned with an aged-vinegar blend, and carefully fanned to cool to achieve the perfect, firm, yet moist texture, pliable but not sticky; there is no shortcut. For authentic, delectable Sushi and original Japanese creations, dine-in, take-out and party catering, visit or contact Kamakura Restaurant, 2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, (510) 521-9121. Wheelchair access, accepting Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover. Open for Lunch Mon. - Sat. 11:30-2:30; Dinner served daily 5pm-10pm.

La Pinata 3

1440 Park St., Alameda (510) 769-9111
La Pinata 3 has been indulging the Bay Area since 1978 with authentic, delicious Mexican cuisine. In 2005, La Pinata 3 introduced their Taco Bar, offering authentic Mexican tacos prepared the old-fashioned way, with traditional ingredients. In addition to Pinata 3's impressive menu, including Albondigas (meat ball soup), traditional Mexican breakfasts, and the famous Whole Red Snapper, delectable homemade pastries (desserts) and after dinner drinks are not to be missed. Perhaps most impressive about La Pinata 3 is the popular Tequila Bar. Serving the largest variety of 100% Agave tequilas in Alameda, and perhaps the entire East Bay, the tequila bar at La Pinata 3 is guaranteed to turn you in to a return guest. La Pinata 3 is open daily from 7am to 3am, and Happy Hour is from 4-5pm M-F. Weekend Specials and a \$9.50 Sunday Brunch are also available. www.lapinata.com. (Look for La Pinata #6 opening mid-August in Concord with 2 tequila bars!)

Sabuy Sabuy II

1233 San Pablo, Berkeley (510) 528-3932
Enjoy Thai cuisine with California flair at the new Sabuy Sabuy II. Your visit will begin with a warm greeting, welcoming you to experience Sabuy Sabuy's specialties: savory soups, salads, delicious meat and Vegetarian dishes, all prepared with only the freshest vegetables and meats by family cooks with decades of experience. Dinner is served M-Sat from 5-9:30pm. Lunch is served daily from 11 am - 3pm with specials starting at \$5.95.

Spelsekammer

2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda (510) 522-1300
Spelsekammer presents Modern German Cuisine that is good for the body and soul. Sauerbraten, Wiener Schnitzel and a house recipe Bratwurst are standards. Light fare such as the Gemusestrudel (Vegetable Strudel with Goat Cheese, Roasted Red Pepper and Spinach. Served in a Carrot Sauce) give the menu a modern (or California) twist. There is a word in the German language that has no counterpart in English: Gemutlichkeit. It connotes a combination of comfort, friendship, and the general sentiment of being completely at ease with your surroundings. Spelsekammer's atmosphere is Gemutlich. Large tables and a private room make it a great place for groups. The Beer is Strictly German, the Cocktails are Distinctly American, and the wine list has some of each. Lunch is served Tues-Fri - Grilled Pannini Sandwiches and Salads are offered along with some of the more popular entrée items. Sunday Brunch is to die for! 10am-2pm. Dinner is served Tues-Sun W, \$5-\$5.50, AC, FB, RR

Exciting Exotic

JAPANESE CUISINE AND SPIRITS



KAMAKURA

2549 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda
510.521.9121

Sabuy Sabuy II

THAI CUISINE

Savory Soups, Fresh Salads
Delicious Meat and Vegetarian Dishes

Dinner Mon-Sat, 5-9:30 Sun, 5-9:30 • 4-8:30

Lunch 11-3 Daily
Specials Starting at \$5.95

1233 San Pablo Ave.
Berkeley • (510) 528-3932



tomatina

Bay Area favorite for Pizza, Pasta, Piadine
Hours: 11:30 AM - 10 PM

No Reservations - Alameda - Walnut Creek - Santa Clara

Tomatina Restaurant
1338 Park St.
Alameda, CA 510-521-1000

Tomatina

1338 Park Street, Alameda (510) 521-1000

Tomatina is a Bay Area favorite for pizza, pasta, piadine and more! Our house-made pizza dough, dressings and sauces keep our food ahead of the rest. We update our menu several times a year to showcase seasonal produce, introduce new selections and keep our wine and beer selections exciting. Recently we introduced autumn flavors such as mushrooms, roasted tomatoes, white beans and squashes as well as a warm apple crisp and dense, fudgy chocolate cake. We pride ourselves on fresh, flavorful dishes, excellent service and a casual atmosphere as well as attractive and clean restaurants. We offer something for every guest: anything from lunch with friends and co-workers, a quick meal before a movie with the family or a casual spot for a first date. Come hungry: from garlic rolls to start and tiramisu to finish, we have what you want to eat! Check out our complete menu at www.tomatina.com. Restaurant Hours: 11:30 am to 10:00 pm. No reservations, first come, first seated. Large groups (10+) are encouraged to call ahead. Cash, DC, V, MC, AE, no checks.



AT SPEISEKAMMER. PARTY TIL
ZE COWS KOMM HOME

Spelsekammer - A German Take On Alameda

Modern German Cuisine

2424 Lincoln Avenue Alameda 510-522-1300

www.spelsekammer.com

Events

FROM PAGE C5

388 Ninth St., Suite 290, Oakland. (510) 637-0455 or www.oacc.cc.

OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, ASIAN BRANCH —

"Minority Dong and Miao Peoples of China," Sept. 6 through Nov. 30. An exhibit of photographs by Berkeley photographer Chuck Marut. Free. Tuesday, 12:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Friday, noon to 5:30 p.m. 388 Ninth St., Suite 190, Oakland. (510) 238-3400 or www.oaklandlibrary.org.

OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAIN BRANCH —

"Building City Beautiful: Mayor Mott's Oakland," Nov. 5 through April 15. A centennial tribute to the mayoral administration of Frank K. Mott, 1905-1915, exploring the time when Oakland's contemporary cityscape was created. In the Oakland History Room. Free. Monday, Tuesday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, noon to 8 p.m.; Friday, noon to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. 125 14th St., Oakland. (510) 238-3134 or www.oaklandlibrary.org.

RICHMOND HEALTH CENTER —

"Laughter is the Best Medicine — Locura Cura," Sept. 21 through Jan. 1. An exhibit of 2-D and 3-D works, as well as media art, exploring how hu-

mor and laughter promote healing from illness and loss.

Free. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 100 38th St., Richmond. (510) 231-1348.

ROYAL GROUND GALLERY —

"Autumnal Colors," Sept. 28 through Jan. 2. An exhibit of paintings, photography and collage by various artists.

Free. Daily, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. 2058 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. (510) 339-0348.

OUTDOORS

BAY AREA RAIL TRAILS — Ongoing. A network of trails converted from unused railway corridors and developed by the Rails to Trails Conservancy.

OHLONE GREENWAY — ongoing. A 3.75-mile paved trail converted from the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway. Suitable for walkers, strollers and skaters. It is also wheelchair accessible. The trail runs under elevated BART tracks from Conlon and Key Streets in El Cerrito to Virginia and Acton Streets in Berkeley.

SHEPHERD CANYON TRAIL — ongoing. An easy 3-mile paved trail converted from the Sacramento Northern Rail Line. The tree-lined trail is gently sloping and generally follows Shepherd Canyon Road. Suitable for walkers and cyclists. It is also wheelchair accessible. Begins in Montclair Village behind McCaulou's Department Store on Medau Place and ends at Paso Robles Drive, Oakland. Useable year

round. Free. (415) 397-2220 or www.traillink.com.

BAY AREA RIDGE TRAIL — Ongoing. The Bay Area Ridge Trail, when completed, will be a 400-mile regional trail system that will form a loop around the entire San Francisco Bay region, linking 75 public parks and open spaces to thousands of people and hundreds of communities. Hikes on portions of the trail are available through the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. Call for meeting sites.

ONGOING EVENTS —

ALAMEDA COUNTY — "Lake Chabot Bike Rides." These rides are for strong beginners and intermediates to build skill, strength and endurance at a non hammerhead pace. No one will

be dropped. Reservations: 1,000 feet. Distance: 14 miles. Intermediate. Pace: moderate. Place: Lake Chabot. Entrance to the park: 9 a.m. (510) 468-9882. **ALAMEDA-COUNTY** — "Tilden and Wildcat Canyon regional trails." Intermediate. Pace: moderate. Place: in front of BART Station. (510) 849-9650.

See EVENTS



THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu

Sweets

Gelato or Sorbetto	3.75
Old-Fashioned Rootbeer Float	3.75
Tiramisu	4.50
ladyfingers, espresso, mascarpone cheese & sweet marsala	
Chocolate Cake	4.50
with caramel sauce, whipped cream and chopped candied walnuts	
Apple Crip	4.50
served warm with vanilla gelato and caramel sauce	
Semi-Freddo	4.50
vanilla & hazelnut gelato, espresso, whipped cream & chocolate shavings	

Illy Coffee & Mighty Leaf Teas

Coffee Decaf	1.50 (free refill upon request)
Espresso	1.95 egl 2.50 dbl
Cappuccino	2.50 egl 3.00 dbl
Latte	2.75 egl 3.25 dbl
Mocha	2.75 egl 3.25 dbl
Might Leaf Teas	1.95
• Earl Gold (Black)	
• Chamomile Citrus Blossom (Herbal)	
• Green Tea Tropical (Green)	
• African Nectar (Herbal)	
• Mountain Spring Jasmine (Green)	
• Organic Darjeeling Choice Estate (Black)	

Beverages

Coke • Diet Coke • Sprite • Orange • Rootbeer • Mr. Pibb	1.95 (free refills upon request)	pitcher 7.00
Iced Tea		
regular • raspberry	2.00 (free refills upon request)	
Mezzo e Mezzo (half lemonade & half iced tea)	2.25 (refills 1.00)	
Italian Sodas		
raspberry • sour cherry • tangerine • peach	2.25 (refills 1.00)	
Calistoga Water (sparkling/still)	2.00	
Tomatina Lemonade		
regular • strawberry	2.25 (refills 1.00)	
Juice		
orange • cranberry • apple	2.75	
Milk whole • 2% • fat free (white or chocolate)	1.75	

Cold Beer

Draft

Pyramid Hefeweizen	4.25
Anchor Steam	4.25
Fat Tire Amber Ale	4.25
Drakes' Blonde Ale	4.25

Bottles

Budweiser	3.75
Corona	4.25
Sierra Nevada Pale Ale	4.25
Coors Light	3.75
Buckler (non-alcoholic)	3.75

Tomatina

1338 Park Street, Alameda (510) 521-1000

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NOW OPEN FOR DINNER

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • BRUNCH

Contemporary American Bistro Cuisine

Seakood • Steak • Pasta

Hearty Entrees: \$12 - \$22

\$5 Sangrias - \$8 Wine Tasting Flights

Breakfast - Mon - Fri 7:00-10:30AM

Lunch - Mon - Fri 11:00 - 2:30PM

Dinner - Wed - Sat 5:00 - Till Close

Brunch - Sun 9:00 - 2:30PM

CAFE & BAR

FULL BAR
Coming December 2005

2735 Broadway (cross st. 27th)
Oakland, CA 94612

510.663.2905
www.zcafeandbar.com

Z Café & Bar

Planning an Event at Z Café & Bar

The restaurant sits in a 1925 building built in the Beaux Arts tradition. It boasts of expansive windows, soaring ceilings, long granite bar and all original tile floors similar to old cafes in Paris. Our space can be a unique and charming host to a variety of events like business meetings, rehearsal dinners, festive celebrations and intimate gatherings.

The main banquet hall seats up to 65 guests. We also have a private dining room that can accommodate smaller groups up to 16 guests. An additional 30 can be accommodated using our outdoor patio. We can host up to 100 guests for cocktail-style events.

The entire restaurant is wi-fi enabled. Guests using our private dining room also have a TV/ video player and projection screen available to them.

Our banquet menu can be tailored to your specific requirements. For your reference, you can download our sample banquet menus.

El Caballo

891B Island Drive (Harbor Bay Island), Alameda, (510) 521-4032
Family-owned El Caballo Mexican Restaurant has had a long-standing reputation for preparing delicious traditional dishes from scratch using nothing but the freshest ingredients of the highest quality. El Caballo is famous for their Especialidades De Mariscos (seafood specialties) including Paella Estilo Catalina, Cioppino Siete Madres, Enchiladas Cabo San Lucas, and many others. In addition to delicious seafood entrees, El Caballo offers an impressive menu of Mexican favorites to please every palate. The family and staff at El Caballo have made it their utmost priority to offer you, their guests, a pleasant and relaxing dining experience. You are invited to enjoy authentic Mexican dining with a view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon.

Araujos Restaurant and Taqueria

1635 Park Street, Alameda, (510) 814-0412

Arturo and Guadalupe Araujo invite you to Araujos Restaurant and Taqueria, serving wonderful authentic home-style Mexican AND American food! Dishes are prepared fresh daily by the Araujos who also offer daily breakfast specials, including Belgian waffles and gourmet potatoes. Popular lunch and dinner specials are also offered daily. The restaurant offers a warm, homey atmosphere, and every table has a view of Park Street! Our restaurant offers and best prices and, of course, the best food. Come see for yourself! Look for our ad and coupons in the Alameda Yellow Pages. Araujos restaurant wants to thank the people that dine at our restaurant. We hope you continue to patronize are restaurant. Mon. - Wed. 8 - 10 p.m.; Thurs. - Sat. 8 p.m. - 3 a.m. (for late night dining); Sun. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 1635 Park Street. (510) 814-0412.

Sophia Cafe

1247 Solano Ave., Albany (510) 526-8663

Sophia Cafe is a tiny haven for Mideast food. Owner Moti Dagan makes entrees and baked goods with a personal touch. For dinner enjoy schnitzel, moussake (sliced eggplant dish with ground beef) or the cous cous plate. Finish with a delightful dessert made in-house. For a limited time, enjoy early bird specials for only \$7.95. Offer valid only with mention of ad from 5-9pm. Take out and catering menus available upon request. Open Sun-Fri 11-9pm.

El Caballo



MEXICAN RESTAURANT

Authentic Mexican Dining

with view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon

50% OFF

Purchase one entree and receive 50% OFF second entree (of equal or lesser value). Offer exp. 11/30/06

891-B Island Dr., Alameda

TEL (510) 521-4032



Breakfast Bonanza!

Breakfast Served All Day

4 pancakes, 2 eggs and 2 pieces of bacon or sausage & free coffee or 8 oz. orange juice	2 eggs and 2 pieces of bacon or sausage served with hash browns & toast & free coffee or 8 oz. orange juice	3-egg omelet: ham & cheese or Denver, served with hash browns & toast
--	--	--

\$3.99

\$3.99

\$4.99

Best homemade hash browns in Alameda
Look for our menu & coupons in the Alameda Yellow Pages.
1635 Park Street Alameda • (510) 814-0412

Sophia Cafe

A MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT

11-9 every day except Saturday

Early Bird Special

\$9.95

With Mention of This Ad
Expires 11/10/05
Dine-in Only 5-9pm only

1247 Solano Avenue, Albany
(510) 526-8663

THAI CUISINE

1433 Park Street, (corner of Santa Clara), Alameda

Phone: 510-865-8008 • Dine In or Take Out

Lunch 11-2:30 - Dinner 5-9:30

A Word from our Customers:

I was raised in Thailand and after leaving, I've been on a constant search for authentic Thai Cuisine. Toomie's is it! The best Thai food in the Bay Area.

World Traveler and Alameda Resident

We love Toomie's. We've been here 6 times in the last 14 days. We can't get enough of it!
Patricia & Greg Mathews

Toomie's Thai Cuisine

1433 Park Street, Alameda (510) 865-8008

Narong Udomrak and his wife Toomie moved from Thailand to Alameda and have been in a Thai family restaurant business in Oregon since. Now they have brought their eighteen-year experience in Thai cuisine to Alameda. Toomie's Thai offers a large selection of mouth-watering authentic Thai dishes. Each dish is guaranteed quality and freshness. Come try Toomie's fresh spring rolls, rice, pad Thai, noodles, flaming beef, tom yum soup, seafood in coconut shell and other favorites. Located in the heart of the Street Business District. Open 7 days a week. Come in and see the newest Thai restaurant in Alameda! Hours: 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Mon-Thurs 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; 5-10 p.m. Fri. 11 a.m. - Sat. 5 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Sun.

EVENTS

TRAILS COUNCIL OF THE EAST BAY — Ongoing. The Council offers week days, Youth Bike Rides, and Group Rides as well as Mountain Bike Basics classes for trail training and handling.

WEDNESDAY RIDE AT LAKE CHABOT — Ongoing. Wednesdays, 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. The ride explores the 13,000-acre Lake Chabot, with a 200-foot climb. Meet at the public safety offices at Lake Chabot, 10000 Lakeside Blvd., East Bay. Reservations required. (510) 727-0618.

WEDNESDAY OUTRigger — East Bay. Ongoing. Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The ride explores the 13,000-acre Lake Chabot, with a 200-foot climb. Meet at the public safety offices at Lake Chabot, 10000 Lakeside Blvd., East Bay. Reservations required. (510) 727-0618.

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clude lemurs, plant fruit bats, otters, reptiles, insects and more. Daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"Endangered Species," ongoing. An exhibit of photographs about the most endangered animals on the Earth and what can be done to save them. At the Education Center. Open daily during zoo hours. **ONGOING EVENTS** — "Valley Children's Zoo," ongoing. Daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The three-acre attraction will offer a completely interactive experience for both children and adults. The exhibits include lemurs, plant fruit bats, otters, reptiles, insects and more. Free with regular Zoo admission.

"Wildlife Theater," ongoing. Saturday, 11:45 a.m.; Sunday, 1:45 p.m. On Saturday mornings listen to a story and meet a live animal. On Sunday afternoon meet live animals and learn cool facts about them. Meet in the Lobby of the Zoo's Maudie's Center for Science and Environmental Education. Free with regular Zoo admission. (510) 632-9525, ext. 142.

SPECIAL EVENT — Bruce Babbitt, Nov. 11, 1 p.m. The Former U.S. Secretary of the Interior discusses his new book, "Cries in the Wilderness," and the need for a unified national land-use policy. Free with general admission.

POINT PINOLE REGIONAL SHORELINE — Ongoing. The 2,315-acre parkland bordering Pinole, Richmond and San Pablo offers views of Mount Tamalpais, the Marin shoreline and San Pablo Bay. There are trails through meadows and woods, and along the bluffs and beaches of San Pablo Bay. Visitors can hike, ride bikes or take the park's shuttle bus to reach the 1,250-foot fishing pier at Point Pinole.

REDWOOD REGIONAL PARK — Ongoing. The park's 1,636 acres contain a redwood forest with peaceful groves, as well as other evergreens, chaparral and grasslands. There are picnic sites and grassy play areas, with access for disabled persons and a play structure for children. Redwood Creek, which runs through the park, contains the world-famous rainbow trout.

ROBERT SIBLEY VOLCANIC REGIONAL PRESERVE — Ongoing. East Bay residents have several volcanoes in their backyard. This park contains Round Top, one of the highest peaks in the Oakland Hills.

ROBERTS REGIONAL RECREATION AREA — Ongoing. Within the park's 82 acres are a heated outdoor pool, bathroom, playing fields, picnic areas and hiking and riding trails. Sea captains once took their bearings from a towering redwood tree on Blossom Rock here.

TILDEN REGIONAL PARK — This park is large and contains hiking trails, a golf course, a miniature scaled train to ride, The Brazilian Room, and picnic areas.

REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN — Ongoing. Guided docent tours of the gardens, Saturday and Sunday through 2005, 2 p.m. Free. (510) 845-4116 or www.nativeplants.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS — "Kids Garden Club," Nov. 5 through Dec. 17. Explore the world of gardening: plant, harvest, build, make crafts, cook and get dirty. For ages 7 to 12. Registration required. Nov. 18, Dec. 3 and Dec. 17, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. \$9 to \$8. (510) 636-1684.

"Bats Ain't Bad," Nov. 12, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn about bats and their importance in Tilden Park and beyond, and make a craft to take home. For ages 8 to 12. Registration required. \$3. (510) 636-1684.

"Fabulous Fall," Nov. 13, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Children ages 5 to 10 are invited to discover leaves and other natural clues of the season.

"Tilden Tot's," Nov. 16 and Nov. 17, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. An outdoor nature adventure for ages 3 to 4 accompanied by an adult. Registration required. \$6 to \$8. (510) 636-1684.

"Salamander Hike," Nov. 20, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Search for salamanders in the area's wet habitats.

"Eat More Chocolate!" Nov. 20, 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Learn the latest scientific information about the health benefits of chocolate through pictures, activities and plenty of tasting. For ages 12 and over. Registration required. \$12 to \$14. (510) 636-1684.

season with horticultural and Asian plant expert Elaine Sedlack. Registration required. \$12.

\$5 general; \$2 seniors; \$1 children ages 3 to 18; free on the first Thursday of every month. Daily, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed the first Tuesday of every month for maintenance. UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley. (510) 843-2755 or <http://botanical-garden.berkeley.edu>.

USS POTOMAC — Ongoing. The 165-foot presidential yacht USS Potomac was called the "Floating White House" when it was refurbished at the beginning of World War II for use by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The yacht has been restored to its World War II splendor and visitors may see it docked at the foot of Clay Street. The USS Potomac offers both dockside tours of the ship and two-hour narrated history cruises.

DOCKSIDE TOURS — through mid-December. Wednesday and Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 3:30 p.m. The docent-led tour is approximately 45 minutes long and covers the ship including the presidential sleeping quarters, dining room, living room and deck as well as various amenities incorporated into the ship to allow President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to move about and live comfortably aboard. The visit begins in the Visitor Center with a 15-minute video that provides a glimpse of Roosevelt's use of the Potomac as well as how the Potomac was acquired by Oakland and how it was restored. Tours may be cancelled due to rain as the decks become slippery and dangerous. \$7 general; \$5 seniors; free youths age 12 and under; free for school classes but they must make reservations.

Potomac Visitor Center, 540 Water St., F.D.R. Pier, Foot of Clay Street, northwest end of Jack London Square, Oakland. (510) 627-1502 or www.usspotomac.org.

POPULAR MUSIC

924 GILMAN ST. — All ages welcome. Kalmex and The Riff Merchants, Bastard Noise, Amps for Christ, Intronaut, A Sleeping Irony, Nov. 11, \$6.

Born/Dead, Regulations, Grey Skull, Bababegia, Requiem, Nov. 12, \$7. Animosity, Time for Living, Backstabbers, Nov. 13, 5 p.m. \$6.

Shadowboxer, Lobstrosities, K.B.H., Nov. 18. Harold Ray, King Kahn BBQ Show, Riff Randalis, Mothballs, Special Ed, Nov. 19, \$6.

Shook Ones, Ceremony, Nov. 20. \$5 unless otherwise noted. Shows start Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 5 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 924 Gilman St., Berkeley. (510) 525-9926 or www.924gilman.org.

ALBATROSS PUB — Whiskey Brothers, Ongoing. Old-time and bluegrass. First and third Wednesdays of every month. Free. Gaucha, Nov. 19, \$3.

Shows begin Wednesday, 9 p.m.; Saturday, 9:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. (510) 843-2473 or www.albatrosspub.com.

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Kotoja, Nov. 19, 9:30 p.m. African dance lesson at 9 p.m. \$13.

T-Rex Elite, Panda, Humanzee, Burmese Crowd, Nov. 20, 3 p.m. \$5. 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. (510) 525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com.

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Tania Libertad, Nov. 17, 8 p.m. The Peruvian singer performs Afro-Peruvian music with her band, from Latin classics, boleros and protest songs to her recent recordings. \$20 to \$32.

Radio Kaboul: Ustad Mahwash and Friends, Nov. 18, 8 p.m. Vocalist Ustad Farida Mahwash performs the music of her Afghan homeland with Ghulam Nejawi, zerbaghali, Prabhu Edouard, tabla; Daud Khan Sadozi, rubab and sarod; and Khalil Ragheb, harmonium and vocals. \$22 to \$40.

Zellerbach Hall, University of California, Berkeley, Bancroft Way at Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. (510) 642-9888 or www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

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James Brown, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m. \$59.50 to \$89.50.

Rob Thomas, Anna Nalick, Nov. 20, 8 p.m. \$39.50 to \$49.50.

2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 465-6400, (415) 421-8497 or www.paramounttheatre.com or www.ticketmaster.com.

SHATTUCK DOWN LOW — "Live Salas," Ongoing. An evening of dancing to the music of a live salsa band. The night opens with beginning lessons at 8 p.m. and intermediate lessons at 8:45 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. \$10 general; \$5 students.

40 Watt Hype, Nov. 18, 9:30 p.m. \$5. For ages 21 and older. 2284 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 548-1159 or www.shattuckdownlow.com.

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October Allied, The Botticellis, El Oho Wolf, Nov. 11, \$6.

She Mob, Bleu Canadians USA for LSD, Nov. 12, \$6.

Gyan Riley, Sean Smith, Steve Mann with Janet Smith, Nov. 17, \$8.

Amendola, Bernard, Blades with Horns, John Schott's Dream Kitchen, Spaceheater, Nov. 18, \$7.

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INDEPENDENT TOYOTA SERVICE & PARTS CENTER

Filmmakers, cast have crafted 'Pride' remake to be proud of

By Randy Myers
STAFF WRITER

Let's get the most pressing question out of the way from the start: Yes, the latest version of "Pride & Prejudice" is quite good. It's not great, in that 1995 miniseries sort of way, but it's very good nonetheless.

And yes, the new Mr. Darcy is not hot in that Colin Firth "make-those-knees-go-wob-wob" sort of way, but hot nonetheless.

Even the reverence accorded to author Jane Austen and her "Pride" with Firth and Jennifer Ehle, it would seem that Focus Features studio simply lost its sense and sensibility in choosing to remake it. Surely someone should have known that no matter how good "Pride" would be, audiences would be prejudiced by the previous work's great shadow.

But let's give director Joe Wright and screenwriter Deborah Moggach the proper respect. They certainly deserve it for bringing chutzpah and doing the Miss Austen quite proud. The camera even pays tribute to the beloved author, providing her a point of view while eavesdropping on conversations.

Even though there are differences here, "Pride & Prejudice" is faithful to the spirit of Austen. Her biting words, her as-of-right observations and her wandering characters. Where the version deviates from prior editions is the way it unbuttons the collar of Austen's vision, cuts the story out loose a bit, and brings some of the British series work brings some of the "Pride," playing up the romance and salting it with more of a general sense that the movie involved in the plot is having a grand time, a brilliant supporting cast of designers. Even the costumes seem to be performed a bit more spunk, a jolt of life.

Wright and Moggach ultimately have achieved in an impressive feat indeed: polishing the 1813 literary gem and turning it into one of 2005's best romantic comedies. Not only that, they wrap it all up with an ending that is natural and effective on its own.

"Pride & Prejudice" is a chemistry between a British and quick-to-retort Mr. Bennet, a woman with no



KEIRA KNIGHTLEY and Matthew Macfadyen star as Lizzie Bennet and Mr. Darcy in Joe Wright's remake of "Pride & Prejudice."

REVIEW

- **WHAT:** "Pride & Prejudice"
- **STARRING:** Keira Knightley, Matthew Macfadyen, Brenda Blethyn, Donald Sutherland, Judi Dench
- **RATING:** PG (some mild thematic elements)
- **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours, 8 minutes
- **WHERE:** Opens today at the Albany Twin, Albany; the Piedmont, Oakland; and the Bridge, S.F.
- **GRADE:** A-

money, and the snobbish and fast-to-brood Mr. Darcy, a man with a lot of blue in his blood.

Keira Knightley ("Domino," "Pirates of the Caribbean") and Matthew Macfadyen (British TV's "MI-5") don't exactly shoot off fireworks at the start, even when going mano-a-mano in the wits department. That fortunately changes, as their put-downs give way to longing gazes. About halfway through, we are almost as besotted with the duo as they are with each other.

Macfadyen finds himself stuck with the most difficult task — making Firth disciples temporarily forget that other Mr. Darcy. Yet he manages to put his own stamp on the part, with a

more rugged take on the character. He grows on you as the movie progresses.

Knightley sparkles as Lizzie, although the gorgeous actress hardly comes across as the ugly duckling her status-seeking mother (played with bursts of goose-like flutters by Brenda Blethyn) assumes.

The supporting cast that adorns the lovebirds couldn't be better. Judi Dench demonstrates what acting is really all about as the shrewish aunt, Lady Catherine de Bourgh. Donald Sutherland plays Mr. Bennet, who occasionally interrupts his wife's relentless quest to marry off their five daughters to wealthy gentlemen with warmth for the girls.

The plot is set into motion when a Mr. Bingley (Simon Woods) moves in nearby and Lizzie's sister Jane (Rosamund Pike, faring better here than in "Doom") falls for him, even though she should have the sense to avoid any man who goes that crazy with hair gel.

As Mr. Bingley courts Jane, and Lizzie meets Mr. Darcy, class complications and romantic entanglements ensue, leading to misunderstandings and revelations.

Of course, all of this has been told well before, but this "Pride" needn't exist in the shadows. It can stand quite proudly on its own.



DANNY (Jonah Bobo) finds a game in the basement, and that's when the action begins in "Zathura."

'Zathura' is quite a joy ride

By Randy Myers
STAFF WRITER

"Zathura" slingshots us off on a joy ride through the fantasy world of boys, a hyperactive place where creepy lizardlike aliens stalk the universe and a dusty board game can launch two squabbling brothers, with house attached, into orbit.

Actor and director Jon Favreau follows up his hugely successful "Elf" with this shining example of the best way to adapt and expand on Chris Van Allsburg's popular, yet slim, children's book.

Previous Van Allsburg cinematic adaptations — such as last year's "The Polar Express" and to a greater extent 1995's "Jumanji" — let the razzle-dazzle effects eclipse the story. In fact, "Jumanji" got so carried away with bringing the eye-candy of Van Allsburg's world to the screen that it reduced the manic Robin Williams into a wallflower, caged by the computerized wildlife running around him.

"Zathura" avoids most of those past pitfalls by letting a funny and observant script by David Koepp (the thriller "Secret Window") and John Kamps do the hard work. Here, the boys talk and argue like boys and an errant astronaut spouts off the line "I've passed through a time spincter."

The special effects seem purposely retro and refreshingly un-reliant on a computer to crank up the story. Even the hungry scaly aliens, called Zorgons, look appropriately B-movie cheesy, as if Bill and Bob from the stunt department were asked to stuff themselves into rubber suits.

All of this does seem inspired, since the action revolves around Zathura, a board game that 6-year-old Danny (relative newcomer Jonah Bobo) finds in his dad's basement. He dusts it off and tries to get his 10-year-old brother Walter (Josh Hutcherson of "Kicking & Screaming") to play while dad (Tim Robbins) heads to the office. In a wink to the film's retro style, dad happens to drive a hip older car.

The brothers argue constantly and convincingly, with the more athletic Walter trying to show up Danny in front of his dad. Meanwhile, older sister Lisa (Kristen Stewart of "Panic Room") sleeps upstairs during most of the family drama.

Eventually Danny does play Zathura, and soon the house is uprooted and sent spiraling through the universe, propelling the brothers on daring adventures. They dodge meteor showers, run from a malfunctioning robot that's programmed to attack, and hang out with a slacker astronaut (Dax Shepard of TV's "Punk'd"). Meanwhile, sis gets accidentally frozen in the bathroom. (Don't worry, she's thawed later.)

Late in the game a few surprises surface, including one that flirts with sentimentality but doesn't succumb to it.

Even though Favreau has made this an incredible journey, the trip seems padded at times, like other Van Allsburg treatments. There's no escaping the

fact that his books offer not much more than an hour of big-screen possibilities. Favreau could have trimmed "Zathura" down by a good 10 minutes.

But that's more quibble than criticism. Favreau — who began his career with the R-rated indie hit "Swingers" — once again demonstrates he knows exactly how to whip up a quality film that appeals to both children and adults, without forsaking the intelligence of either. His "Zathura" joyfully makes us forget our troubles and rediscover the imaginative child within us all.

REVIEW

- **WHAT:** "Zathura: A Space Adventure"
- **STARRING:** Josh Hutcherson, Jonah Bobo, Dax Shepard, Kristen Stewart, Tim Robbins
- **RATING:** PG (fantasy action and peril, some language)
- **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 40 minutes
- **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
- **GRADE:** B
- **ONLINE:** See the trailer at ContraCostaTimes.com.

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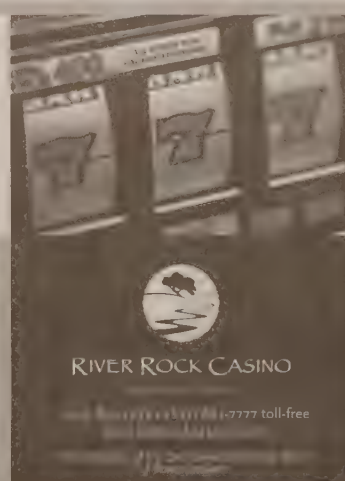
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Friday, November 11, 2005



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

The personalities of TV weather

"EIGHT MONTHS a year," a local TV weatherman once told me, "we might as well not even be here."

But with the onset of the rainy season, we all pay more attention to weather people and their forecasts. And "whether" they'll caution us to "bring your umbrella" to work. (Possibly interesting trivia: Forecasters up in Portland, where I often visit the grandkids, don't do this: Oregonians exhibit regional pride by NOT using umbrellas, and also by using only intermittent windshield wipers. Seriously. If you use an umbrella in Oregon, you've "outed" yourself as a Californian.)

I've noticed, for example, that KRON-TV's new weather hire, Stacey Sawyer, doesn't have much rapport with her co-anchors and that she dresses like a flight attendant at Aeroflot. Plus, she seems tentative.

I also notice that Mark Danon, who came to Channel 4 as a weatherman from New York's WCBS-TV, now spends most his week doing traffic. Also, that he's been working long hours — he was on both KRON's 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. newscasts last week.

This is partly because KRON's been short weatherpeople since both Brian Hackney (now at KPDX) and Steve Raleigh (now in Cincinnati) bailed recently. Sawyer was brought in from Tornado Alley — Lubbock, Texas — even though KRON fill-in forecaster Kathy Trafton (who didn't get hired) is far more at ease and personable on camera. Trafton's also a college meteorology instructor and an attorney. Plus, she's been forecasting on Channel 50 up in Santa Rosa for years, and knows local weather.

I've noticed that radio's most accurate and tireless forecaster, KCBS' veteran Mike Pechner, has been relegated mostly to week-ends, replaced by the insufferable Roberta Gonzales and also by Pam Mohr of corporate sister station KPDX. To save money and cross-promote the stations.

I also have taken note that self-proclaimed wit Spencer Christian, even though he can be annoying, is still one of local TV's two most accurate forecasters, along with KTVU's morning guy Steve Paulson.

And how could I miss the fact that former KRON weatherman Mark Thompson, for years the cleverest anchor before he headed to L.A., now has a recurring role as a cable-TV interviewer on ABC's hot rookie series starring Geena Davis, "Commander In Chief." I've heard Thompson's stentorian tones for years narrating Fox's reality shows and Guinness Book specials, where he's also done some emceeing.

Finally, personable KGO-TV veteran meteorologist Joel Bartlett once told me the key to survival as a TV weatherman here: "Always error on the side of caution. Predict rain if there's any chance of it."

"If you say it's going to be dry and it rains, you'll hear from lots of angry cement contractors the next day."

MEDIA NOTES: Forget KPDX's Gonzales and smirking John Kessler. Judging from my e-mail, the most annoying local TV personality is another morning person, KRON anchor Darya Folsom. I concur: Not only is the giggly Folsom prone to explosive outbursts of laughter that make many viewers cringe, her on-camera apparel has been more than a bit racy. Until recently, that is: Perhaps her KRON bosses said something to Darya about the wardrobe? ... Finally, if you haven't caught it yet, "The Colbert Report" on Comedy Central, following "The Daily Show" at 11:30 weeknights, is the funniest new show on TV in years. Colbert's "gravitas show-down" with NBC's Stone Phillips on his first show was a classic.

Bill Mann's column runs every other week. Reach him at NewsMann@sonic.net

Musical is a showcase for actors

■ **'Dear World'** portrays a countess who saves her cafe and Paris

By Susan Kuchinskas
CORRESPONDENT

In post-World War II Paris, a small pocket of sense and sensibility is threatened by three con- nivers. The Countess Aurelia runs a dear little cafe at which the raggedy Mute is treated with the same respect as the Countess herself. But one day, a pair of corporate presidents meets a prospector who thinks there's oil under the square — and they don't care who or what gets hurt, as long as they get their black gold.

The Countess' mind may be stuck at the turn of the century, but she musters the forces of good to save the cafe and Paris for those who are happy to simply love and sit in the sunshine. The Masquers Playhouse production of "Dear World" seems as timely now as it must have in 1969.

Ann Homrighausen as the countess Aurelia is imposing, charming and firmly in control of the proceedings. Both her acting and her singing have impressive range and authority. As the fey old lady with a mystical heart and a will of iron, she moves from tender protectiveness for young love to regret for the lost love of her own youth, and even to a grimly humorous acceptance of her aged carcass.

It would be fun to see one more side of Homrighausen. I kept wishing she would show some brass, throw wide her arms, and belt out a number.

According to Director Pat Nelson's notes, composer Jerry Herman, who did the music and lyrics, envisioned "Dear World" as a moody chamber piece. Its Broadway producers turned it into a large extravaganza, cutting songs and adding sets — but the play closed after three months. The Masquers' version was rewritten by Herman and his co-authors, Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee, restoring deleted songs, revising the book and the orchestration. Nelson worked closely with Herman to stay true to his vision.

But perhaps Herman loves his creation too much to be objective. I side with those Broadway producers: Gimme some glitz. This "Dear World" felt weighted down by its 17 songs, most of which are similar in tone and tempo.

There certainly are some standouts. And, although this is



THREE MARVELOUSLY MAD LADIES plot to save the world in The Masquers' production of "Dear World."

THEATER REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Dear World"
■ **WHEN:** Through Dec. 17, with performances on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinees are at 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 13 and 27, Dec. 4 and 11.
■ **WHERE:** The Masquers Playhouse is located at 105 Park Place in Point Richmond.
■ **TICKETS:** \$15. For reservations, call 510-232-4031. For more information, visit www.masquers.org.

a play about woman power, the men get all the good lyrics. George Doerr as President Two is adept at physical comedy, and does wonderful things with his face. Michael O'Brien, President One, manages to combine menace and glee in a hilarious way.

Don Hansen plays the Prospector as a man who really has fun destroying things. He's clearly not a dancer, but that's just perfect for this role.

When the two Presidents and

the Prospector sing "A Little Bit More," a celebration of greed, they delight so much in their own evil that we do, too. In an ode to the mess their oil-drilling will make of Paris, they croon, "There will be a sweet taste in the air/ From industrial waste in the air/ And your eyelids will smart from the sting of/ The smog in the Spring of/ Next year," as they caper across the stage.

Gregg Klein is a delight as the Sewer Man. His song, "Have a Little Pity," begs our sympathy because, "My capital gains are constricting me/ My wealth is a plague that's afflicting me." He's a roly-poly Romeo, besmirched but courtly, wistfully glad to be invited above ground, yet smug in his enjoyment of a fabulous life below the gutter.

The two young lovers, Nina and Julian, don't have a lot of character, but Bridget O'Keefe and Coley Grundman wring what they can from the roles.

There are two places where this show could open up and kick some butt: The second act begins with the Countess and her two nutty friends, played by

Ann Homrighausen as the countess Aurelia is imposing, charming and firmly in control of the proceedings. Both her acting and her singing have impressive range and authority.

Theo Collins and Irene Scully, having a tea party as they decide how to save the world. Constance, in a fabulous lavender wig, hears voices, while Gabrielle, a confection of aging virginity, has an imaginary dog. Each woman performs an odd little musical routine, then the three melodies twine together into a counterpoint that could be delightfully mad, almost out of control. Instead, musical director Pat King keeps it at allegretto.

The other song for show-stopper is the song, "Dear World," a reprise, most of the time together to improve the battered earth to "get it right." Again, it's sung sweetly, have more impact if it began slowly and the speed until the act fired up with optimum termination.

There are two other songs which are lovely and sively detailed. Nelson has a few more locations for her actors performing scenes in imaginary Paris, she lets Robert Love break the fourth wall, some lovely mime. Dan Levack changes the mood.

Dear World is a wonderful showcase, especially fun to see "of a certain age" on stage — and saving the love.

Susan Kuchinskas reviewed religiously. Reach her at susan@kuchinskas.com

Alameda artist gathers fresh ideas from the mundane

By Robert Taylor
STAFF WRITER

Two years ago the Richmond Art Center reached out to the East Bay's alternative art world for "Curate This," a fascinating, sometimes in-your-face exhibit.

In the back corner of the spacious gallery was an especially timely, memorable image — Andrew Phares' "Playing House." Phares had taken a rusting metal dollhouse that was printed with cozy images from the 1950s, cut it apart and reassembled it as an oversize revolver.

Here were American domestic life and American violence intertwined in a startling way, without the typical political diatribe. The work stood out in a remarkably simple way.

Phares, 32, has spent most of his life in Alameda, and has a master's degree from California College of the Arts.

Maybe it's the contrasts in his life that lead to the amazing juxtapositions in his art. He's made jewelry with images of perfect little flowers which were, in fact, smashed .22-caliber bullets he found on the street in Oakland.

Few artists are overnight sensations, and the most sensational — Andy Warhol, for instance, and the late Jean Michael Basquiat — are equal parts self-promoters. "I've been an emerging artist for some time now," Phares says.

But Phares (pronounced "fairs") is moving ahead. A dozen of his works were selected this year for another Richmond Art Center exhibit, now on tour. His work fit perfectly into "Games



ANDREW PHARES is emerging from the shadows of the art world.

People Play," an exhibit at Oakland's avant-garde 21 Grand Gallery.

The Oakland Museum acquired four pieces of his "art jewelry," and one is now on display. In July, he was invited to take part in another jewelry exhibit at the VertexList Gallery in

Brooklyn. "That's about as close as I've gotten to New York," he says.

Art collectors have also discovered him. Last year he sold six pieces for \$3,000 to a man who planned to display them in his bed-and-breakfast inn.

Phares keeps coming up

with fresh ideas, from the most mundane resources: stuff he finds on the street, at flea markets and in the bottom drawers of furniture at the San Francisco auction house where he works.

Next, he will take part in the 12th annual "Pink Week" exhibit

Nov. 13-19 at Crocker-Nash artists' co-op gallery, London Square. He'll show a shrine-like "Sacred Heart" with a sacred heart image — and for the element — Pepto-Bismol. He's trying to decide if he's using liquid or tablets.

Friday Auto Plus

cars.com

Friday supplement to The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, November 11, 2005

Section D

The Nissan 350Z looks great both coming and going

BY TOM KEANE
MOTOR MATTERS

2006 Nissan 350Z roadster, with its sleek nose job, allows this convertible to sneer at its competitors. It also has a beautiful rear end. The front of this 350Z focuses on the large headlight that has a crystal-clear sparkle. I only keep my eyes off them. Then I walk-around, viewing this with a black canvas top. The two-seater sits on large 18-inch alloy wheels. After opening the lid downward into the driver's side, the seats are covered with burnt leather and have a ventilated seat. I realized that these seats had a switch that I accidentally turned while fumbling with the buttons that control the seat positions. The 350Z comes in two models: Roadster and Coupe. The coupe has five trim levels, but the convertible roadster only has three. The base model is the Touring model with a price of \$37,850, plus the usual desecration of \$580. With options the price is \$40,060, a hefty price for a liter engine, but worth every cent for the powerful engine and transmission.

The model also has traction control, limited-slip differential, cruise control, auto-dimming rearview mirror and alloy wheels. After becoming acquainted with the buttons and adjusting the mirrors, the ignition key and the fun behavior is something very invigorating. The wheel of a 350Z is something very invigorating. The wheel of a 350Z is something very invigorating. The wheel of a 350Z is something very invigorating.

Storage space is limited throughout the 350Z. There is no glove box in the usual location (in front of the passenger's seat), but if that seat is slid forward, there is a storage box large enough to hold a computer case. In back of the driver's seat is a large speaker for the sound system. Between the seats is a small storage box under the armrest that also contains two cup holders. A more convenient cup holder is located to the right of the



THE 2006 NISSAN 350Z roadster is a sporty convertible that can sneer at its competition.

MOTOR MATTERS

KEANE ON WHEELS

folds shut in 20 seconds.

But the storage space used to hold the top results in less trunk space. For example, I had a filled grocery cart but was unable to put all the contents in the trunk. It did not create a problem as I used the passenger's seat and floor for the overflow. I suppose the trunk could hold a small golf bag, but not one of conventional size.

Sound system. For those who want to add a navigational system, there's space above the sound system. This Bose system has seven speakers plus a six CD changer and is capable of playing an MP3. Below that sound

NISSAN 350Z

Vehicle Type	Two-passenger, two-door, rear-wheel drive roadster
Suggested Retail	\$37,850
Price As Tested	\$40,060
Engine Type	V6 DOHC 24-valve w/CVTC
Horsepower	300 @ 6,400 rpm
Torque	260 @ 4,800 rpm
Transmission	Six-speed manual
Wheelbase	104 inches
Height	52 inches
Curb Weight	3,370 pounds
Fuel Capacity	20 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 19/25

system are the climate controls.

The more interesting dials are in the center of the driver's panel: The tachometer and speedometer. But the best attraction can't be seen. It's the well-balanced structure and ability of the Z to

zig-and-zag as a result of its double wish-bone suspension — and its ability to keep on course with a viscous limited-slip differential. Its performance-tuned dynamic system is the real enjoyment of this car. Or maybe it's the sparkle of the taillights that competitors would see as the Z zooms by them.

INSIDE

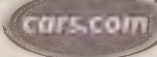
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1966 Chevrolet Impala has been a 'lifetime' friend

BY VERN PARKER
MOTOR MATTERS

CLASSIC CLASSICS

All 1966 Chevrolet Impala Super Sport models had fire-breathing V8 engines. Even the regular Impala buyers favored some version of the V8.

Of the 654,900 Impalas built in 1966, a total of 621,800 were delivered with a V8 engine. That left 33,100 equipped with the standard 250-cubic-inch, six-cylinder, 155-horsepower engine.

Mark Aronson, of Ashland, Mass., can be more specific. He owns a six-cylinder 1966 Impala convertible that is one of only 8,500 such models manufactured.

He was a pre-teen in Newton, Mass. when a lady down the street drove home in a new 1966 turquoise-colored Chevrolet. "That was a very bright color back then," he recalls. She bought the car in Boston for \$2,700.

Until he graduated from high school, Aronson saw that handsome car driven through the neighborhood on its 119-inch wheelbase. Then he went off to college and, much to his surprise, the car was still there when he returned home.

From 1966 until 1983 the car spent every night in the original owner's garage. "Then one day in 1983," he says, "I drove by and saw the 3,484-pound convertible with a 'FOR SALE' sign in the window." The Impala was 17 years old and had 64,000 miles on the odometer. "I just had to buy this car," Aronson says.

The white convertible top with a glass rear window had been replaced in 1979, but the body was a typical Massachusetts rusty car.

"I bought the car on the spot," Aronson says. His parents questioned his sanity, but they permitted him to put the Chevrolet in their garage.

"It had a lot of rust," Aronson admits. "It was in rough shape." With the help of a friendly body shop, a rust-free twin to his car was found in a Texas junkyard. That car contributed both front fenders, rear quarter panels and rocker panels.

Original to Aronson's car are the engine hood, trunk lid, both doors and bumpers and the interior. Determined to keep the rust monster at bay, he has garaged his Impala eight months a year from September until May. Even then it sees use only on weekends and usually goes only to the beach. "It's a great beach car," Aronson says. "It has a huge trunk."

After the body surgery was completed in May 1984, and a fresh coat of original color paint added, Aronson parked his Chevrolet in his grandmother's garage in Brookline.

Since 1983, he has progressively restored his Impala piece by piece in a never-ending endeavor. He has replaced the aqua and dark green vinyl interior and the dark green carpeting and dashboard.



THE BEST PART OF OWNING this Chevrolet Impala convertible, Aronson says, is that "I've known this car all my life and now it's

The hydraulic cylinders and electric motor that operate the convertible top have been replaced twice. The entire suspension is new, as are the brakes and tires. The original glass is tinted and the driver sits on a bench seat.

Aronson has made two alterations to his otherwise stock 1966 Chevrolet. He installed a dealer ac-

cessory under-dash tissue dispenser and replaced the original AM radio with a new Delco AM/FM radio.

"It's a big car and it's so comfortable," Aronson says. "The six is a strong engine, but the gas mileage is not great." He reports an around town figure of about 12 mpg "and not much better on the road."

The 26-gallon gasoline tank is

filled through the opening located behind the rear license plate.

Whenever Aronson drives to the beach, he leaves early and returns late for two reasons. Neither he nor his Chevrolet "are happy about sitting in traffic," he says. Both tend to overheat.

The best part of owning this Chevrolet Impala convertible, he

says, is that "I've known

my life and now it's

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BY JUNIOR DAMATO
MOTOR MATTERS

AUTO DOCTOR

Dear Doctor: I'm comparing the 2006 Acura MDX and the Honda Pilot vehicles. The Acura is just about the same and costs about \$10,000 more than the Pilot. Why the big price difference? — Rod

Dear Rod: There are many differences in these two vehicles besides the price. Go to each dealer and let them explain the differences, including seating capacity,

engine horsepower, vehicle weight and towing capacity. Even the tire sizes are larger on the Acura. Road test them back-to-back and take notes. If you have a large family, take them along sometime for a long road test.

Dear Doctor: I just purchased a 2005 Honda CR-V. They advised me

the first oil change is due at six months or 3,700 miles, whichever comes first. They said the break-in oil is special and needs to stay in for the 3,700 miles. I asked about switching to full synthetic after the first oil change and they said wait until 12,000 miles. I was also told the maintenance light will come on when the oil needs changing and I should go to the dealer to have it reset. I was frustrated when I heard that. The service writer showed me how to re-

set the maintenance light. What are your thoughts? — Norman

Dear Norman: I suggest changing the oil at 3,000-mile/3-month intervals. Use the regular petroleum base oil until 9,000 miles. Rotate the tires at 6,000 miles and 12,000 thereafter.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1993 Ford E150 conversion van with 192,000 miles. At 181,000 miles I had the transmission overhauled. Occasionally, after a stop, transmission

shifting becomes difficult. The shop that rebuilt the transmission is very reliable, so I went back and they replaced the speed sensor at no charge. But they could not duplicate the hard shifting, even though a technician took the van home for a couple of weeks and could not get the transmission to shift hard. The dealer said the van is underpowered and that's the reason for the hard shift. — Lou

Dear Lou: There are many fac-

tors that can cause a shifting problem, including a lack of correct right conditions, as well as a bad valve or solenoid. It is difficult to analyze the problem. Stay in transmission shop when they rebuild the van. If so, they may be able to fix it. — See DOCTOR

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2006 Central Av - \$645,000
453 Central Av - \$410,000
2179 Harbor Bay - \$803,000
1815 Harbor Dr - \$960,000
1906 High St - \$575,000
8 Kinkaid Ct - \$926,500
355 Magnolia Dr - \$699,000
2026 San Antonio - \$1,100,000
2506 San Jose - \$800,000
1401 Santa Clara - \$465,000
2101 Shoreline 206 - \$485,000
2101 Shoreline 467 - \$515,000
712 Taylor Av - \$784,500
20 Vista Rd - \$808,500

ALBANY

707 Cornell Av - \$825,000
819 Curtis St - \$712,500
419 Evelyn Av 303 - \$430,000
455 Jackson St A3 - \$525,000
833 Madison St - \$800,000
1030 Ramona Av - \$645,000
839 San Carlos Av - \$661,000

BERKELEY

1269 Alcatraz Av - \$670,000
1534 Ashby Av - \$680,000
1648 Ashby Av - \$565,000
1814 Blake St 3 - \$340,000
1408 Blake St - \$810,000
2976 California St - \$675,000
2317 Carleton St C - \$479,000
3117 College Ave 2 - \$410,000
851 Colusa Av - \$950,000
1731 Francisco St - \$1,435,000
2642 Fulton St - \$760,000
3134 Mabel St - \$629,000
1901 McGee Av - \$575,000
1628 Oregon St - \$581,500
1231 Oxford St - \$890,000
1400 Queens Rd - \$705,000
1211 Spruce St - \$1,150,000
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1958 Thousand Oaks - \$1,405,000
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3140 Carlson Bl - \$440,000
8740 Don Carol Dr - \$825,000
1415 Richmond St - \$480,000
7518 Rockway Av - \$575,000
2517 Tamalpais Av - \$900,000
1757 Walnut St - \$675,000

EL SOBRANTE

18 Charlotte Ct - \$620,000
723 Kelvin Rd - \$550,000
5300 Ridgeview D5 - \$265,000
5744 Robinhood Dr - \$562,000
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6363 Christie 1604 - \$429,000
153 City Limits Cr - \$600,000
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KENSINGTON

200 Trinity Av - \$910,000

OAKLAND

920 105th Av - \$410,000
2336 21st Av - \$452,000
3038 22nd Av - \$530,000
1531 29th Av - \$496,500
1513 34th St - \$295,000
1501 37th Av C5 - \$580,000
955 37th St - \$450,000
2225 38th Av - \$750,000

2242 40th Av - \$362,000
455 43rd St - \$655,000
1620 46th Av - \$560,000
2063 64th Av - \$315,000
3508 64th Av - \$382,000
1628 67th Av - \$385,000
1428 68th Av - \$420,000
2642 68th Av - \$540,000
1133 72nd Av - \$505,000
2107 73rd Av - \$372,000
1179 78th Av - \$125,000
1330 78th Av - \$470,000
1240 81st Av - \$405,000
1040 89th Av - \$335,000
2243 89th Av - \$425,000
2328 90th Av - \$720,000
1015 94th Av - \$390,000
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2121 96th Av - \$600,000
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6363 Aspinwall - \$740,000
571 Athol Av - \$680,000
873 Brookhurst St - \$550,000
2747 Brookdale Av - \$610,000
5324 Bryant Av - \$650,000
180 Caldecott 105 - \$386,000
220 Caldecott 205 - \$390,000
547 Capistrano Dr - \$315,000
6130 Colby St - \$827,000
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10 Covent Ln - \$383,000
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2139 East 19th St 2 - \$339,000
2461 East 22nd St - \$650,000
2054 East 25th St - \$550,000
1386 East 36th St - \$545,000
27 El Carmello Cr - \$755,000
6833 Elverton Dr - \$1,300,000
78 Elysian Fields Dr - \$751,500
4053 Everett Av - \$550,000
77 Fairmount 112 - \$200,000
77 Fairmount 118 - \$300,000
77 Fairmount 209 - \$297,000
77 Fairmount 211 - \$299,000
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223 Marina Lakes - \$377,500
231 Marina Lakes - \$305,000
237 Marina Lakes - \$303,000
349 Market Av - \$415,000
1468 Monterey St - \$287,000
473 Mountain - \$715,000
1301 Quarry Ct 109 - \$539,000
300 Ripley Av - \$415,000
80 Seabreeze Dr - \$715,000
5712 Skyview Pl - \$770,000
540 S. 18th St - \$365,000
3642 S. Stoneglen - \$390,000
21 Southwind Cr - \$685,000
5008 Sweetwood - \$900,000
5009 Sweetwood - \$800,000
1787 Tulare Av - \$550,000
3419 Wall Av A - \$620,000
5759 Yale Av - \$499,000

SAN LEANDRO

1551 136th Av - \$585,000
1513 137th Av - \$365,000
1617 140th Av - \$575,000
1295 143rd Av 1 - \$411,500
1226 147th Av - \$599,000
1439 Abbey Av - \$550,000
977 Alice Av - \$625,000
999 Arguello Dr - \$615,000
110 Begler Av - \$655,000
867 Billings Bl - \$505,000
589 Bixco St - \$814,500
15167 Endicott St - \$680,000
1577 Graff Av - \$1,000,000
1262 Linton St - \$625,000
13170 Neptune 3 - \$545,000
2180 Strang Av - \$540,000
14856 Sylvia Wy - \$530,000
477 Warwick Av - \$775,000
211 W. Broadmoor - \$540,000
768 Woodgate Dr - \$470,000
772 Woodgate Dr - \$450,000

SAN LORENZO

16895 Alisal Ct - \$420,000
16600 Ashland Av - \$480,000
15709 Connolly Av - \$593,500
1628 Keller Av - \$540,000
17432 Via Annette - \$625,000

1351 Via Coralla - \$550,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 18
LOWEST PRICE: \$410,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,100,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$760,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$706,472

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST PRICE: \$430,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$825,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$661,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$656,929

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 20
LOWEST PRICE: \$340,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,435,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$685,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$777,225

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$440,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$900,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$675,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$649,167

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$265,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$810,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$562,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$561,400

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$429,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$600,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$532,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$520,333

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$910,000

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 105
LOWEST PRICE: \$125,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,759,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$525,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$560,005

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST PRICE: \$530,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,500,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$1,002,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$860,667

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$480,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,759,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$1,100,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,119,500

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST PRICE: \$420,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$625,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$540,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$512,500

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Carmakers try to appeal to kids, parents

BY MARGARET WEBB PRESSLER
THE WASHINGTON POST
What do you like best about your family's car?
At big car manufacturing companies, there are plenty of adults trying to figure out what's in your head. And in your hands. And in your backpack.
"The voice of children is very strong in the development of our products — they play a key role in the development of features," said Ed Laroque, whose job is making people in the United States want to buy Toyota cars, trucks and vans.
Laroque and other top auto executives are concerned about what features kids like to have in vehicles because car companies want to get younger people buying their products.
The average age of a Toyota Camry buyer, for example, is 35. By coming up with gadgets that children love, carmakers hope to get more young parents as customers.
What are the gadgets that kids love? Lots of cup holders, places to put CDs and DVDs and portable games and, of course, in-car entertainment systems.
It used to be that car companies asked parents what they wanted in family cars. The result was lots of great safety features. Those are important, of course, but they just don't have the same impact on kids as a DVD player with wireless headphones and a Game Boy port.
These days, auto manufacturers are developing kid-friendly cars by actually talking to kids, and even videotaping families as they use their cars.
General Motors gave early versions of its Buick Terraza, Pontiac Montana and Chevy Uplander to 30 families last summer and had them drive from Detroit to Orlando so the design team could find out what kids really want in a vehicle. What kids want the most, it seems, is to watch movies and play games — just like they can at home.
"That was huge in my house — every so often we'd have to look back and make sure the kids were still in the car because of how quiet it got," said Ken Parkinson, who is in charge of exterior design for General Motors' trucks and SUVs. "Now you can hook your iPod right into the stereo of the vehicle."
Parkinson, who has worked on

interior and exterior design for the giant automaker, says the best feedback for family vehicles comes from the designers who have kids. They not only talk to their kids at home, they sometimes bring their children to work and show them the newest ideas.
And everything aimed at kids gets a major durability test.
"You don't want it to be something that once ... kids are climbing around back there, they step on it and it breaks," Parkinson said.
Here's a look at when various features were first offered in American cars (with first models, if known).
■ Radio: 1932.
■ Cup holder: 1983, on Dodge Omni and Plymouth Horizon sedans.
■ CD player: 1991.
■ VCR: 1999, on the Oldsmobile Silhouette Premiere minivan.
■ DVD: 2001, on the Infiniti QX4.
Sources: Edmunds.com; Automotive Hall of Fame.

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■ DVD: 2001, on the Infiniti QX4.
Sources: Edmunds.com; Automotive Hall of Fame.

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Tokyo Motor Show showcases alternative fuel vehicles

BY MICHELLE KREBS

TOKYO — If one didn't think Japanese automakers held a leadership in hybrid and fuel-cell vehicles, this year's Tokyo Motor Show presented a compelling case.

Japanese automaker Honda showcased its latest advances in hybrids and fuel cells at the biennial show that opened in late October and ran for 17 days. German automaker Mercedes-Benz unveiled a new fuel-cell

Lexus' close-to-production concept of the 2007 LS 460, designated the LF-Sh, was expected to be a new 4.6-liter when it goes into production. It also displayed the GS, a hybrid version of its recently redesigned GS sedans

SHE'S FREEWHEELING

The Honda FCX Concept is the automaker's latest generation of fuel-cell technology, this time installed in a premium sedan. Honda claims the system delivers more power in less space with the fuel cell occupying a space beneath the floor to allow for a roomy interior and short front end.

The hydrogen fuel tanks expand storage capacity over previous tanks, not by increasing pressure, but via a newly developed hydrogen absorption material inside the tanks, which doubles fuel capacity and extends the vehicle's range to 350 miles. Three energy-efficient motors — one in the front and two in the rear — deliver power to all four wheels.

aru, and now that hybrid leader Toyota has bought in, Subaru's hybrid plans could be accelerated.

Meantime, Suzuki's Ionis concept, a microvan, uses fuel-cell technology from GM, which still holds a stake in Suzuki.

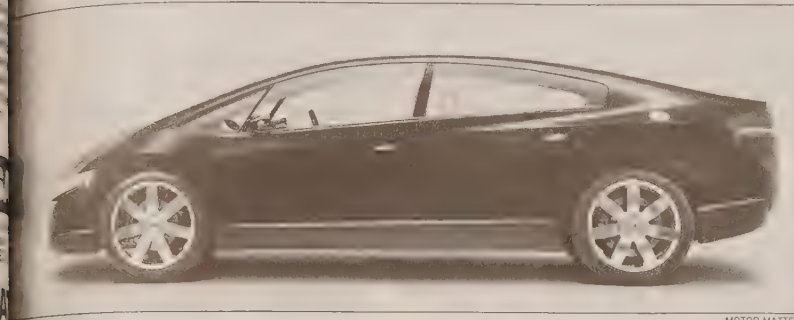
Even tiny Daihatsu unveiled a fuel-cell powertrain on a production four-seater Tanto. Daihatsu, which is affiliated with Toyota, borrowed Toyota's fuel-cell technology for the concept.

While most of the hybrids and fuel cell vehicles were displayed by Japanese makers, Mercedes-Benz used the Tokyo show to unveil the F600 Hygenius concept, a fuel-cell study based on its B-Class that aims to top 3.0-liters per 100 kilometers and a range of more than 400 kilometers.

To reach Michelle Krebs, send e-mail to michkrebbs@aol.com.



TOYOTA ESTIMA HYBRID CONCEPT.



HONDA FCX CONCEPT.



SUBARU B5 TPH CONCEPT.

will soon go on sale.

Toyota unveiled the Estima Concept, a new generation of minivan with Toyota's hybrid system, THS II, and a four-wheel drive. Toyota says that the Estima delivers low fuel consumption and low emissions in the compact class in low fuel consumption and low emissions. The auto maker says the highly efficient minivan attains 18 kilometers per liter (a 2.4-liter four-cylinder) and an exhaust heat recovery system for lowering carbon dioxide and other emissions.

The vehicle generates its electricity via two motors. Standard AC outlets can supply watts of power — enough for a television, refrigerator, heater and more, making it ideal for recreation or blackouts, says notes.

Toyota bills its Fine-X as a concept and "a glimpse of automobile's future." It is powered by a fuel-cell system, uses Toyota's proprietary technology for key components, including the fuel-cell stack and pressure hydrogen tanks. The Estima has independent front-wheel drive and independent four-wheel steering. The Estima uses carbon-neuron materials for interior and exterior materials. Toyota Eco comes from plant fibers and uses polylactic acid polymer made from corn and other vegetables, and kenaf natural fiber. Toyota says carbon released during driving is captured by carbon dioxide capture during the growth of used to make the mate-

Nissan, which brings a hybrid powertrain — its first — to market in 2007 in both Japan and the U.S., showcased its latest fuel cell technology in an X-trail sport utility, though an even newer generation of the technology is planned for unveiling by the end of this year.

Mazda's star was the Senku concept, a four-seater rotary-engine sports car for the near future, as the automaker described it. Indeed, it may well be the next-generation RX-8. However, the concept version features Mazda's hybrid powertrain that uses the famed rotary engine running on hydrogen and adding electric motors and regenerative brakes common to gas-electric hybrids. The same technology had been demonstrated earlier in an RX-8 and was also installed at the show in a minivan concept, the Premacy Hydrogen RE, which is its first front-wheel drive application of its rotary engine.

Subaru unveiled the B5-TPH concept, which makes its North American debut at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit in January. The Outback-based hybrid is a two-door sport wagon/sport-utility crossover with all-wheel drive. It is equipped with a powertrain that Subaru calls a Turbo Parallel Hybrid. It consists of a turbocharged 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine that is horizontally opposed under the hood and is combined with electric motors and advanced lithium-ion batteries, versus nickel metal hydride.

Subaru plans to sell its first hybrid vehicle in 2007 in Japan. However, now that General Motors has sold its stake in Sub-

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Auto enthusiasts "get-together" for fun and memories in Pleasanton

GOODGUYS

PLEASANTON — Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 12 and 13, the Fairgrounds in Pleasanton will resemble an enlarged version of the "Monster Garage" television set — custom cars, hot rods, muscle cars, classics and tricked out trucks of all shapes and sizes, makes and models generously sprawled throughout lush green acreage. They're here for the 16th annual Goodguys Autumn-Get-Together — a convention of car crazies of all walks. Old guys mingle with young guys, hip hop mixes with Brooks & Dunn and to say that personal fashions run the gamut would be an understatement, but if there's one thing all can agree on, it's cars and that cars are cool.

The beauty of an event like the 16th Autumn Get-Together, is that it's a little different from other Goodguys events around the country that have stricter mandates on what year (vintage) cars can participate. The Get-Together welcomes all years, makes and models, the only stipulation being that the cars be American powered. If your 1968 Volkswagen has a Chevy V8, you're in. If you have a decked-out, lowered 2005 Chrysler 300, you can park next to the VW on steroids. Got a lil' deuce coupe '32 Ford? Glad to have ya and so on. The beauty of a show like this though, lies in the cultural and age differences of the car owners. Can you imagine bling-clad teenagers trading stories with a graybeard in overalls? It happens here. The rockabilly hipsters mix with the gold chain-clad rich guys. Car

guys seem to inherit a mutual affection for all things with four wheels and it shows when they roll through the event gates.

Goodguys President Gary Meadors, a 66-year-old lifelong car nut and avid hot rodder, loves seeing the younger guys at Goodguys events. "The kids are the future," Meadors says. "Normally, our events feature the traditional hot rods and customs, which usually attracts the 35 and older crowd. At the Get-Together events, I see young kids in their 20s having as much fun as guys my age. They understand that cars are timeless. They understand that working on the car out in the garage is something real. Something you can feel and touch with your hands and when it's painted and finished you can stand back and admire something put your heart and soul into. Nothing against computers and video games, but you don't get that kind of a rush from playing Nintendo or Playstation."

It's no secret that Hot rodding and classic American cars are surging in popularity. Magazine racks across the country are filled with hot rodding lifestyle magazine titles and prime time programming blocks on cable television are filled with such hit shows as Rides, Pimp My Ride and Monster Garage. Again, Meadors isn't surprised by rodding's new found attention. "Colorful, customized American cars have always made people happy," he said. "You drive down the road in a big foreign luxury sedan and people think you're a snob. When you hit the road in a candy red '57 Chevy, chrome glisten-

ing in the sun, people give you a hearty thumbs up and wave to you even though you're a complete stranger. These cars extract happy and carefree human emotions. We've been doing hot rod events for over 20 years and mainstream America has now found out how cool these cars are and how much fun you can have building, owning and driving them."

More than just a show, the 16th Autumn Get-Together is really a "state fair of automotive excitement." In addition to the cars on display is a massive swap meet for purveyors of used auto parts. Covering a span of 1.5 square miles, the swap meet features vendors from all over the western United States selling everything from hub caps to fuel lines, to complete collectible cars. And speaking of collectible cars, there's also a "Cars for sale Corral" — a special area devoted solely to those selling classic collectible cars and those who wish to buy them. A host of manufacturer's and suppliers exhibits will offer the latest and greatest in speed equipment, while the food offered will range from your basic corn dog to the finest fare available at an outdoor event.

The Goodguys 16th Autumn Get-Together event gates are open Saturday, Nov. 12, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 13, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. General admission is \$12, kids 7-12 \$6.

Founded in 1983 and headquartered in Pleasanton, Calif., the Goodguys Rod & Custom Association is the nation's leader in producing and promoting ex-

citing automotive enthusiast events. The association's events are staged throughout the U.S., from New York to California, from Florida to Washington, ranging from two-day events to weekend extravaganzas attracting over 75,000 auto enthusiasts, catering to many diverse auto enthusiasts.

For additional information on Goodguys, its products and upcoming events visit the company website at www.goodguys.com.



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2006 Saturns offer lower prices, more features

Tips to stay cool in a highway work zone

DETROIT — Saturn — the brand that pioneered the "no hassle, no hassle" sales and ownership — will provide additional value for the 2006 model year by lowering sticker prices.

Many models feature both a lower sticker price and additional content.

"As evident by our 2006 prices and equipment levels, we're continuing to move our customer focus to even higher levels," said Saturn General Manager Jill Lajdzia. "In addition, the new prices strengthen the 'no-hassle, no-hassle' purchase experience that remains a hallmark of Saturn."

The 2006 Vue presents a particularly attractive value, as it combines a lower price with a significantly enhanced interior and exterior design. The manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) of a popularly equipped 2006 Vue (front-wheel drive, automatic, four-cylinder) has been reduced by

\$1,845 to \$19,345. When equipped with front-wheel drive and an optional 250-horsepower engine, the Vue gets 28 miles per gallon on the highway — the best EPA rating for any V6-powered compact SUV.

Pricing and equipment of the Ion sedan and quad coupe has also been significantly restructured. For example, the MSRP for a popularly equipped ION 2 (w/optional air condition and automatic transmission), has been reduced by \$1,495 to \$14,350.

The price of the performance-oriented Ion Red Line has been reduced to \$19,990, a savings of \$1,460 from 2005. In addition, the optional Competition Package — featuring a limited slip differential, boost gauge and illuminated ladder tachometer has been reduced from \$1,470 to \$1,375. The projector beam fog lamps that were part of the Competition Package in 2005 are now standard on all Ion Red Lines.

The base MSRP for the seven-

passenger Relay sport van with front-wheel drive is reduced by \$895 to \$23,590 for the new model year.

Along with the new prices for 2006, Saturn now provides the On-Star In-vehicle safety and security system as standard equipment on every vehicle, reinforcing the brand's commitment to providing continuous safety before, during and after a crash. Other notable equipment upgrades include a new center stack and radio for Ion and a standard power sliding passenger door and safety package on Relay 3. For Vue, all models now come with a standard power package that includes power windows, door locks and side-view mirrors; remote keyless entry; cruise control; automatic headlights; map lights and an auto-dimming mirror with compass and outdoor temperature gauge.

As it continually refines its current products, Saturn is also beginning an ambitious product ex-

pansion, with plans to double its portfolio by the end of 2006. During that year, Saturn will introduce three new vehicles: the 2007 Sky roadster, 2007 Aura midsize sedan and the 2007 Outlook midsize crossover utility vehicle.

Saturn is a division of General Motors Corp. (NYSE: GM). GM, the world's largest automaker, has been the global industry sales leader since 1931. Founded in 1908, GM today employs about 317,000 people around the world. It has manufacturing operations in 32 countries and its vehicles are sold in 200 countries. In 2004, GM sold nearly nine million cars and trucks globally, up 4 percent and the second-highest total in the company's history. GM's global headquarters are at the GM Renaissance Center in Detroit.

More information on GM can be found at www.gm.com.

*All MSRPs include DFC charges: \$565 on ION; \$600 on VUE; \$740 on Relay.

KNIGHT RIDDER/TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

A road work zone can pose any number of safety risk to drivers and workers in the area. So, it is in everyone's best interest to follow and take seriously work zone safety. Here's a few driving tips to follow when moving through a work zone.

- Keep on your toes for the unexpected when approaching a road work zone. Normal speed limits may drop and traffic lanes may change or disappear due to closure.
- Ease up on the gas pedal. Speeding is a key reason behind work zone crashes.
- Maintain a safe distance between your car and the car ahead of you. Tailgating can end up a rear end collision. Also, keep a safe distance away from construction workers and their equipment.
- Heed all warning signs. They are there to help guide you and other drivers safely through the

work zone. One of the most common mistakes you've left the work zone.

- Obey road signs. Keep traffic moving through a work zone.
- Keep your focus on the road and maintain lane position, such as using the right side of the lane while driving.
- Keep pace with the flow of traffic. Motorists can help the flow and posted signs as soon as possible. Attempt to drive right of closure and merge into the flow of traffic.
- Stay patient and calm. Television, radio and often inform motorists about the work zone and the road work and the work zone.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Edited and compiled by Myers.

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Honda Civic aims to recapture its youth

BY ROYAL FORD
BOSTON GLOBE

After I parked the 2006 Honda Civic EX sedan, I was asked twice if the vehicle needed to be plugged in.

It's a common question.

Many people who are aware of hybrid gasoline/electric vehicles do not understand that they generate their own electricity. No, they do not need to be plugged in.

But this new Civic I was driving was not a hybrid.

It was the shape that fooled them. The Toyota Prius is a hybrid, and it dawned on me that the new Civic looks, at a fast glance, like the Prius.

Now, the Civic hardly needs to prove itself by touting its fuel efficiency. It is, after all, the model that penetrated the American car scene during the gas crisis of the 1970s, and sold very well.

Later, it became the darling of the tuner set, which turned Civics into electronically tweaked hot rods.

In the past several years, however, it has lost its racer's edge.

The new Civic, which is arriving in four models at various levels, aims to recapture its youth.

Even with Prius-like sloping design, featuring a sharply raked windscreen, it looks more aggressive than its predecessor, which was pretty much just a box.

Its four versions include a coupe, a sedan (as tested), a hybrid version, and the Civic Si, for those who like their hot rods small. Its much-anticipated launch is scheduled for later this year.

Base prices range from around \$15,000 for the coupe to \$22,000 for the hybrid.

The sedan that was our test car comes in three model levels: DX, starting at \$14,500; LX, at \$16,510; and EX, at \$18,260. We drove the EX.

As with all new Civics, it came with ABS as a standard safety feature as well as front, front side, and front and rear curtain air bags for head protection.

The front seats are broader than they were in past Civics, and the dash slopes in with a nice cockpit feel.

The instrument cluster is split into a pair of arcs, one a small semi-circle behind the wheel that features a tachometer, an exterior thermometer, and a trip meter.

On the dash is an eyebrow of

It won't crest with the wave of unique coolness, but this new rendition is a nice escape from the utilitarian box that preceded it.

an arc, which displays the fuel level, coolant temperature, and speed, all in digital form. Each glows in a neonlike blue-purple haze.

The basic Civic gets a 1.8-liter, 140-horsepower engine and has front-wheel drive.

The engine is mated to either a five-speed manual or a five-speed automatic.

(A six-speed manual, a first for Honda, will come on the Si.)

The test car had the automatic, and it was a transmission benign in its operation. Step on the gas, let off the gas, and let the transmission do its thing quietly.

On the road, the Civic was remarkably smooth and quiet — no body roll in corners, no porpoising at high speeds over uneven highways, no nose dives in heavy braking. There was only the slightest hint of understeer, sometimes pronounced with front-wheel drive. Virtually perfect engineering.

My only complaint about the handling would be that the steering, while nicely heavy, did not produce the road feel that heft would imply. It is usually light steering that results in scant feedback.

Besides solid safety features, other noted standard gear included a navigation system with voice recognition, 160-watt AM/FM/CD audio package with six speakers, steering-wheel audio controls, and AN MP3/auxiliary input jack.

No, it won't crest with the wave of unique coolness that washed the Civic CVCC ashore in 1974, but this new rendition is a nice escape from the utilitarian box that preceded it.

THE CIVIC'S FOUR VERSIONS

include a coupe, a sedan (photos to right), a hybrid version and the Civic Si, for those who like their hot rods small.



The star of the 2006 Viper is its V10 engine

BY STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

For Dodge Viper fans, the 2003 introduction of an all-new Viper model was a good news, bad news situation. The good news was that the Viper was more sophisticated and substantially improved over the model it replaced. The bad news was that it came only as a convertible — the coupe model was discontinued.

There's nothing wrong at all with the Viper roadster, but some fans prefer a coupe for its year-round capability, the structural integrity that a hard top adds, and — arguably the most important aspect — the Viper just looks great as a coupe. Plus, says Dan Knott, Dodge's director of street and racing technology, "Many Viper owners go racing, and a coupe is required under some racing-series rules."

Dodge never denied that a coupe model of the new Viper was coming, but it has taken until now for it to arrive. The 2006 Viper SRT10 Coupe is just now appearing at dealerships.

Under the skin, it's pretty much the regular Viper: a massive 8.3-liter, 510-horsepower V10 engine, with a six-speed manual transmission. Weight is 3,450 pounds, just a little more than the convertible. Retained from the last Viper Coupe model is the "double bubble" roof — a roof that is raised slightly over each of the two seats to make room for a helmet-wearing driver and passenger. This means that without helmets, there's plenty of headroom.

Inside, the Viper Coupe is pretty much the same as the convertible with logical but no-frills instruments and controls but a pair of very supportive sports bucket seats. Outside, the Viper Coupe shares the hood, front fenders and doors with the convertible, but the

entire rear is different.

The engine cranks at the press of a big red button — a Viper tradition — and the burble of the V-10 is slightly more muffled in the hardtop than in the convertible. Otherwise, not much difference: The Viper convertible chassis is already so rigid that there's little body flex or cowl shake on all but the roughest railroad-track crossings. Likely the added structural integrity of the Viper Coupe won't be noticed until the odometer has racked up quite a few miles — convertibles tend to loosen over time, and coupes don't so much.

Once under way, this Viper — and any Viper built in the last 15 years — is a rocket ship. The enormous tires, P275/35ZR-18s in front, P345/30ZR-19s out back, are superb, but unlikely to win any long-distance tread-retention accolades. The huge Brembo brakes are excellent, and just refuse to fade.

This 8.3-liter V10 engine, though, is the star. In the current edition of Motor Trend, the editors put the new Viper Coupe on a dynamometer to see if the engine was really pumping out the advertised 510 horsepower.

It wasn't. The output was closer to 530 horsepower.

Of course, the Viper Coupe won't win any awards from the Sierra Club, as the EPA-rated fuel mileage is 12 mpg city, 20 mpg highway, premium fuel only.

But if you can afford the Viper Coupe, base price \$83,995 including shipping, you can probably afford to fill the 18.5-gallon tank. A lot.

THE 2006 DODGE VIPER
SRT10 Coupe, right, adds a hard-top model to the convertible.



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SAT 11/12, 9-2 409 Falcon Way (off Refugio Valley) The BIGGEST Job Board In The East Bay careerbuilder.com	Danville ESTATE SALE 352 HARRER LANE Off Del Amigo Rd Sat. 11-12, 9am-3pm No Early Sales Items in house and garage, CASH ONLY! Garage Sale All funds to charity Fri-Sat 11/11-12, 10-4 No Early Birds 7 Elizabeth Ln Off El Cerro Blvd, cross at Matadero & cross at San Gregorio MOVING - All Must Go! 1314 STRAWBERRY CT Saturday, 9am-777 Glass Tables, TV, Dressers, Corian Din-ing Rm Table, Wicker Chairs, Lamp Stereo Case, Desk, More++ MOVING SALE 333 LO LANE Sat Nov 12th 7:30-2pm Washer & Dryer, refrig, couch, love seat, TV, chairs, & household. RECORD IMPRESSIONS Going Out of Business Safes, Maps, Hshld Items, Furn., Nov & Dec 1111 Hartz Ave. Open 10-5:30pm Discovery Bay COLLECTIBLES SALE Halloween Xmas Ornaments Nov. 12, 13, 19, 20 8am - 9pm 8550 Ocean Lane For info: 925-516-0480 SAT 11/12, 8-2 3245 Newcourt Dr Some of everything - hshld items, good clothing, sports, fish-ing stuff, nice china display hutch, & very nice Nordic Track Dublin HUGE GEMINI SALE Fri-Sat 11/11-12, 8-4 1220 Bay Laurel St Something for every-one - collectibles, furn., antiques, bike, home decor, books, baby things, Asian & Disney items & more! No Early Birds El Cerrito 1709 Wesley Sat. 10-4 Sun 12-4 Mission Oak dining set, victorian hand, china, sterling, chrysal, and more. All must go! Hercules Garage/XMAS SALE Beanie Babies & much more! SAT 11/12, 9-2 409 Falcon Way (off Refugio Valley) The BIGGEST Job Board In The East Bay careerbuilder.com	Lafayette CLEANED THE Attic & Garage - Multi Family Sat 11/12, 9-2 18 Brookdale Ct (off Hope Ln) Hshld. items, some furn., lots of misc. No early birds Livermore Garage Sale 681 Huntington Way Fri-Sat 9am-7 Multiple Treasures of toys, dolls, furn., clar-g & Felts, fabrics, tea pots, linens, books, fishing stuff & more! HUGE GARAGE SALE 847 Keystone Way Fri 10-3pm, Sat 8-3pm Hshld items, bikes, refrigs, & furn. LIVERMORE MULTI-FAMILY SALE - SAT 8AM - 2PM Furniture, Bikes, CPUs, Games, movies, Com toys, jewelry, house-hold items, etc. 3265 Edinburgh Drive CHRISTMAS MARTINEZ DECOR 9900 V 9400 9PM 9900 Center Ave., Like new life size Santa & Mrs Claus \$200/set; 9 Arbor \$100; r deco-rated tree \$75; animat-ed dolls, etc. Cash Only ESTATE SALE Furniture, Washer, Clothes, Electronics, Tools, Household, & more! Kawasaki Vulcan, Fr/Sat, Sat, Sat, Sat No Early Birds, Please. MARTINEZ 2-Day sale. Books, clothes, Cds, VHS, bike, fur-niture, tools, res power tools, etc. household items. Hours: 8am-3pm Sat and Sun, 11/12/2005 740 Talbot Street CA 415-298-6095 Moraga TWO-FAMILY SALE Sat. 8am-3pm 149 Walford St Off Rimer: Toys, Books, Furniture, & Other Great Stuff!! Oakland 4 HOME GARAGE SALE Sat 11/12 10am-4pm 612 Gunn Dr. Furniture, clothes, books, mini chopper, household items, and much more. SAT & SUN 11/12-11/13 9am to 4pm 8938 Blgdon Dr. (Off Zinn) Bedroom & living room furn. Art pieces. Kitchenware, floor rugs, lamps, & more. THRIFT SHOP HOLIDAY ITEMS Salem Home 2361 E. 29th St @ 23rd Ave. OPEN TUESDAY & THURSDAY OPEN HRS. 10-12 & 1-3 Linen, hshld goods, & MUCH MORE!	Oakland TOTAL ESTATE LIQUIDATION SALE! Sat Only 11/12, 10-4 5495 Kales (x College) Artistic Estate filled with Quality Items! Brett Weston 76 land scape, Navajo & Ketch choice jewelry, Asian prints, old books, Knight piano used by L. Tchakovsky Pla-nist, 1920's mared in, number of Craftsman furniture pieces by Saul Rosenfield, trav-el items, rugs, Linden clock, Antique EKS mach., new sectional sofa set, lots more! Oakley FRI-SAT. 8am-2pm 5407 Piper Ln off Vintage Pkwy All priced to sell! Too Much To List! Orinda Garage Sale 219 La Espal Rd Sat. 11/12 9-2pm Hshld. items, dried flowers, furniture ORINDA Great Deals - Garage Sale, Recent Remodel - getting rid of great items, rugs, furniture, mattress, household items, jewelry, shoes, much more. Saturday, 8 am to 3 pm 11/12/2005 5 Woodcrest Drive 925-212-3044 Pinole SAT. 11/12, 7:30-3PM 1708 BEAVER WAY (off Summit) Stereo w/speakers, entertain. cntr., misc. Pittsburg SUN 9-5 Lots of DJ equip Coke box, old fire crts, lg. antique cab-FATTS sign, lots of stuff, 925-2835 27 NAUTILUS CT. IF BAIN CANCELED! Web computer, print-er, Mink fur stole, 12 place setting Mikasa dinnerware, elec BBQ, florals, small electric appls., many Christ-mas items. SAT/Sun, 10-3pm, 272 Coral Dr. Info: 925-427-1023 Pleasant Hill DON'T MISS THIS! Garage Sale 2843 Rockridge Dr. SAT. 11/12 NOON-4PM Baby equip./clothes/toys, work out equip., misc. & MUCH MORE! MULTI FAMILY SALE SAT. 8am-4pm 200 Evelyn Dr. est. Mary Golf, records, Videos, DVD's, fishing, trap-ets, art work, sports stuff, toys, accordian & guitar, & more. Pleasant Hill SUN 11/13, 9-2 140 Pleasant View Dr New window air cond., wood chair, china dish sets, count ed crabs, still living full qn, wks bed frame, old crabs, still living mugs, Dremel tool, saw, CANCEL if rains Pleasanton Don't Miss This FAMILY SALE 5507 Corte Sierra Fri & Sat., 9-3pm Baby clothes, crib, kit. items, hshld gds GREAT ITEMS! HOLIDAY BAZAAR 6950 Tassajara Rd (29th St. off 580) Sat. & Sun: 10-4pm All new merchandise 1 of a kind hand knit scarves, etc. Pleasanton SALE - FURNITURE, TOYS, TABLE, SAW, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, BABY SATURDAY 11/12/05 8-3:00PM EARLY BIRDS!!! CASH ONLY! 6230 Huxton Court Pleasanton CA 94588 Pleasanton Sat. Nov 12, Garage Sale Baby Furniture, Bedroom Furniture, Kitchen Items, odds and ends. 2020 Martin Avenue (cross street Mohr) Richmond RICHMOND XMAS BAZAAR and bake sale, FLEA MARKET, Barret & Crafts, SAT 11/12, 9-2pm, 3415 Barrett Ave. Enter on 34th St. thru parking lot - 510-262-0446 Rodeo SAT 11/12 8am to 2pm 1036 Viewpointe Blvd. ***** Misc. furniture, kitchen items, and some pwr. tools San Leandro ESTATE SALE SAT/SUN 11/12-11/13 10am to 4pm 852 Dolores Ave. (Grand Ave. exit, off 580) 3 bdrm. sets, din. set w/6 chairs, wedge-wedge stove, antique cupboard, artwork, linens, TVs, newer com-puter & stereo equip., patio set & garden statues, elec. beer signs, tools, cook books, recs, tapes, and household items. CLASSIFIED = RESULTS	San Francisco Garage Sale Sat. Nov. 12, 8am-4pm 1121 Monterey Drive No Early Birds, Please Tools, Troy built a horse elec. start rottieller, furniture, clothing, hshld items Garage Sale Sat. 8am-3pm 4017 S. Royal Links Circle Garage Sale SAT. only 8am-3pm 1203 Alameda St Jacobson/Hillcrest Kitchen items, furn., clothes, collectibles and much more! Garage Sale Saturday 11/12 Only 8am-3pm 149 Shady Lane Furniture, baby items, No Early Birds, Please Garage Sale Saturday 9am-2pm 29 West 17th St. Some Antique Furn & Lots of Great Items. Don't Miss This HUGE GARAGE SALE 5100 Tumbleweed Ct. SAT. 11/12 8-2PM Hshld items, elec-tronics, kit. ware, gift items, etc. LOTS OF KNICK KNACKS! MOVING SALE Sat 11/12 8-2PM 5262 Prewett Ranch Rd Saturday (11/12) 9-4 Baby stuff, yard furn., & household items. MOVING SALE Furniture, dishes, household items, too much to list! FRIDAY 7am-5pm 3502 Stone Place MOVING SALE Sat 11/12 7-4 2954 Mayflower Dr. (Hillcrest to Lakespur) Furniture, pictures, home decor Everything must go! MOVING SALE Saturday, 8am-3pm 2443 Anita Ct. Off 49er Way. Furniture, Small Appliances, Kids Clothes & Toys - So Much More! SUN ONLY 11/13 9-1 No Early Sales Household items, too much to list 128 Terranova Dr. (off Camby) YARD SALE Saturday, 9am-3pm, 5105 Moccasin Way, Off Prewett/Oak Vly. Toys, Baby Clothes & Supplies, Computer Equipment, TV, VCR's, Antiques & Jewelry. Bay Point PARKING LOT SALE Many useful items. SAT 11/12 8:30-3:30 United Pentecostal Church, 293 Alives Ln.
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Shopping Plus

Friday, November 11, 2005

Look inside for local advertising circulars every Friday

THE SEATING

Diners find their places at the table according to place cards bearing only title and surname. Children's place cards have first names only. The card is centered on the napkin, which is folded on top of the place plate. Each diner removes the place card to a spot above his plate and gently spreads the napkin on his lap.

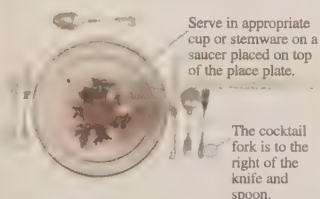
THE NAPKIN

Napkins should not be vigorously shaken out and should not be tucked into the collar or belt. When the meal ends, the napkin should be crumpled into loose folds and placed on the table to the left or right of the dessert plate. It is never refolded.



The art of Etiquette

FIRST COURSE FRUIT OR SEAFOOD COCKTAIL



Serve in appropriate cup or stemware on a saucer placed on top of the place plate.

The cocktail fork is to the right of the knife and spoon.

When the cocktail is finished, its fork is placed on the small plate to be removed. The place plate remains.

SECOND COURSE SOUP

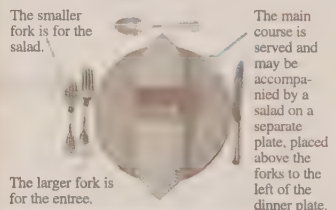


Soup is served in dishes or two-handled cups placed on their own saucers.

The soup spoon is to the right of the knife.

At the end of the soup course, the soup service is removed, leaving the place plate, which can be used for the main course.

MAIN COURSE TURKEY AND SALAD

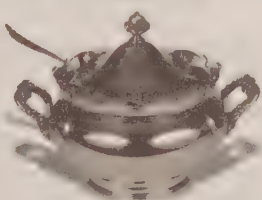


The smaller fork is for the salad.

The larger fork is for the entrée.

The main course is served and may be accompanied by a salad on a separate plate, placed above the forks to the left of the dinner plate.

ADDING ON



SOUP

The hostess may serve soup from a tureen placed on the table or a sideboard, or soup may be served in the kitchen and brought to the table in individual cups.



CRANBERRY SAUCE

A jelly spoon may be used to serve the jellied cranberry sauce.



GRAVY

It is proper to pour the gravy when it is served in a boat, as shown. Gravy also may be served in a bowl, in which case it is ladled onto the food with a small ladle.

A few simple rules for an elegant meal

You want this year's family Thanksgiving dinner to be extra special. No paper plates and plastic cups on trays in front of the football game.

So, you pull out the fine china, polish the silver, wash the stemware and iron your prettiest cloth for the dining room table. You arrange flowers or fruit for a centerpiece and put tapers in the candlelabra.

What you serve and how many courses you offer depends on your family's food preferences, but four courses likely would be sufficient for the bounteous Thanksgiving dinner.

The courses might be a shrimp or oyster cocktail, followed by soup, followed by the main course — turkey and all the trimmings. For a very formal dinner, the salad course comes next, and then dessert and coffee. However, hostesses today most often serve the salad before, or along with, the main course.

Here, with assistance from the 14th edition of "Emily

Post's Etiquette, a Guide to Modern Manners," is a page of tips on formal dining.

There are degrees of formality, of course, and most modern households do not come equipped with servers. Carving of the bird may be done by Dad at the table, with plates passed to Mom for serving the dressing and vegetables. Responsible children may be charged with helping place and remove the plates.

Certain rules do, however, hold fast: Diners are served from their left and plates are removed from their right. No one begins to eat until the hostess has raised her fork to begin. And no one leaves the table — no rushing to the den to watch a football kickoff — until the hostess rises and signals the end of the meal.

But, no matter how formal or informal the setting, the most important amenities of all at a Thanksgiving table are warm hearts and gratitude for family and friends.

— Knight Ridder Newspapers

ADDING ON



DESSERT AND COFFEE

Dessert is served, accompanied by coffee or demitasse (from the French: demi/half, tasse/cup) and appropriate individual teaspoons or demitasse spoons.



SUGAR AND CREAMER

Sugar, creamer and sugar shell are passed when coffee is served.



SALT AND PEPPER

An open saltcellar and a pepper pot may be found at each place on a formal table, or at least between every two places. Diners sprinkle salt from the open cellar by using the tiny salt spoon.



TURKEY STUFFING

Either a silver or china serving bowl is appropriate for turkey stuffing.

RESEARCH BY SHIPPY DAVIS AND EMILY COOK
PHOTOS BY WOODY MARSHALL
GRAPHIC BY NAPO MONASTERIO AND RIC THORNTON.
THE NACON TELEGRAPH





CUSTOMERS OF ALL KINDS are interested in the new, unusual and artful like the built-in cabinets, left, and ways to make kitchens more multifunctional and welcoming like the open design, right.



Beyond fads: Five trends in kitchen design that are here to stay

ARA We've all seen them...the decorating TV shows that trumpet the latest high fashion trends in kitchens — from glass countertops to microwaves that double as flat screen televisions. It's easy to get caught up in the hype for the latest high-priced item, but what trends are worth your attention and investment?

While industry experts often disagree on style issues, they all agree on one thing: the trend of bigger, more open, more important kitchens in the U.S. is here to stay.

"A generation ago, kitchens were thought of as the place where mom cooked by herself, then brought the food out to the rest of the family. Now, Kitchens are the hub of the

home, where the entire family gathers in the evenings, after work, to do homework, share meals, and entertain friends.

Everything we're seeing in kitchen design is just another way to make kitchens more multifunctional and welcoming," said Ellen Cheever, ASID, a well-known kitchen designer, educator, and frequent contributor to industry publications like "Kitchen and Bath Design News."

Trend 1 The kitchens within a kitchen: As more Americans build homes with kitchens that are open to living and dining rooms, kitchens are being treated more like any other room in the house, with elaborate moldings, specialty lighting, and finely crafted floor and ceilings.

"People need their kitchen to be expandable and collapsible, too," Cheever added.

"On the weeknights, they need to be able to navigate their kitchen quickly when they're just warming up a simple meal. But on the weekends, they need it to open up enough so they can prepare a fancy gourmet meal and entertain a large group of friends while they are cooking."

As a result, designers are creating quick prep areas where a small sink, cutting board, and microwave are close together. Larger homes are often using a small butler's pantry off the main kitchen for this purpose, with a clean up sink, microwave, prep area and small refrigerator.

The butler's pantry has the added convenience of keeping dirty dishes out of the way while entertaining, and storing large amounts of serve ware, linens and china.

Cheever noted that customers are also putting in larger sinks in the island, to make a food prep zone, and placing larger farmhouse sinks along the back wall for more elaborate "clean up centers."

"The days when kitchens always had one sink right under the kitchen window appear to be over," Cheever said.

Trend 2: Eclectic is in: Customers of all kinds are interested in the new, unusual and artful, according to Jan Aufderhar, semi-custom manager for MasterBrand Cabinets in Jasper, Ind. MasterBrand Cabinets makes many of the built-in cabinets sold in the U.S., including its upscale semi-custom Decora line, sold through more than 1,000 dealers nationally. While the upscale markets are often driving innovation, these trends are now becoming common at all price levels, Aufderhar said.

"Instead of having a solid bank of cabinets with a standard look, customers are mixing and matching finishes, putting cabinets up on feet to make them look more like freestanding furniture, and choosing exotic woods and hardware," she said. Decora alone offers more than 1,000 different finish and door combinations.

The company's knobs and drawer pulls are often a focal point in a kitchen, providing a "jewelry-like" panache with more expensive and quality made materials.

"White cabinets are still popular, but the sales are going down for those as customers go for painted finishes like chili pepper red, or rich, hand-rubbed finishes like dark cherry," Aufderhar said.

While industry experts often disagree on style issues, they all agree on one thing: the bigger, more open, more important kitchen in the U.S. is here to stay.

Customers are adding more display area into upper cabinets as well, putting in clear or art glass inserts into their door fronts and gallery lighting inside the cabinet to show off prized ceramics or hand-blown glass collections.

Trend 3 More tall, less wall: As customer's floor plans continue to be more open, there is less space to mount above the counter cabinets. As a result, manufacturers are creating more height options for cabinets to help break up the space between rooms.

"We've been installing a lot of pedestal cabinets — these are cabinets which are taller than the rest, usually 42 inches or more, that act almost like a built-in pedestal at the end of a long run of under the counter cabinets. It's a great post for a column or other architectural element for the room," Cheever said.

She noted that designers are also creating counters with two levels. The high level breaks up space

between kitchen and dining areas and reduces the amount of counter clutter. It's a handy place to pull out a kneading bread or rolling pin.

Designers are also using "baking centers" as a standard counter, with built-in kneading bread or rolling pin.

Trend 4 Expanded desk areas: "Used to be a desk in the kitchen was for storing her recipes and bills," Cheever said. Now, homes got wireless Internet, so mom didn't like being at a kitchen desk.

Customers are forgoing desks for larger open areas around the island, perfect for watching the surf the Internet and while enjoying TV.

Trend 5 Everything's getting tips: Customers

See TRENDS

(Why) not your mother's wallpaper?

ARA One of the more exciting trends today in interior design is mid 20th century modern, but, retro with a twist. Modification of this motif is necessary because today's new homes are, according to The National Association of Homebuilders, more than twice as large as they were in the 1950s, and 50 percent larger than they were in the 1970s.

Modern houses call for open floor plans with the spaces flowing into one another, instead of having smaller, separate rooms. The standard 8-foot ceiling has been raised to 9, 10, often, 12 feet.

This is true even in the "traditional" style home that most buyers prefer. Kitchens are open to family rooms or breakfast rooms or homework/computer areas. Bedrooms flow to sitting areas or dressing rooms, even mini breakfast bars. Bathrooms may have his and her compartments, dressing or exercise areas.

The homeowner is left in a quandary as to how to decorate these spaces. Can the spaces be unified, yet defined? In order to keep the open, spacious feeling, and still have it feel welcoming, designers and home owners are looking again to wallpaper to warm large spaces. This is an option that your mother may have chosen, but this is not your mother's wallpaper.

Wallpaper, like all design tools, is cyclical in nature; that is, for one reason or another it falls in and out of fashion. In the 1950s, minimalism played down vertical surfaces to emphasize interior space, often

small rooms with low ceiling heights. During the 1970s bold modern wallpaper designs began showing up as rooms became larger and more open. But in the 1990s decorators began using paint and faux finishes because wallpaper was no longer user-friendly, either to apply or remove.

Today's wallpaper is made of a breathable paper material, Easy-Wall, that is washable, easy to hang and easy to remove. It doesn't trap moisture, is environmentally friendly, and it is beautiful. This new wallpaper from Chesapeake Wallcoverings needs only a latex-painted wall, no special primer, and does not tear or wrinkle during installation. Because it is completely removable, it will not damage the wall.

One of the most common open spaces in today's home is the Great Room, which often sports a lofty ceiling and combines living/family and dining areas.

If the ceiling height is to be emphasized, soft vertical geometric patterns with large circles or diamonds are easy on the eyes and will blend with any decor. If the homeowner wants to "lower" the ceiling, horizontal patterns, crossing both living and dining areas with long drop lights from above can be used. FYI, wallpaper can be applied horizontally.

Chesapeake Wallcoverings new book "Open Spaces" has many of these softer geometric designs to offer the D-I-Yer. Instead of

See WALLPAPER, Page 3

Tips for hiring a contractor

MS Whether you're restoring an old house, adding a room or two for a growing family or simply getting new storm windows, hiring a competent contractor is crucial for making your home-improvement venture a success. But before you hire one, it's a good idea to do your homework. That way, you can avoid the pitfalls — work left undone, bad communication, overpaying, and poor or incomplete work — that could arise if you're not cautious when you hire a contractor.

What a contractor does. A general contractor manages and oversees all aspects of the project. He or she orders supplies and pays suppliers, gets building permits and schedules permit inspections and, depending on the size of the job, hires and supervises subcontractors such as plumbers or electricians. Sometimes the contractor provides architecture and design assistance as well.

Your search. The first step in finding a good contractor is to ask people you know — friends, neighbors, relatives and coworkers — for referrals. Other good places to ask for recommendations are lumberyards, Realtors, the local Better

Business Bureau, or your local county or city building department that issues permits.

The next step is to call the contractor. "You can get a feeling for the person on the phone and, if it goes well, set up an in-person meeting," says Don Novak, chairperson of the National Association of Remodelers' Council.

Whatever you do, don't rush the hiring process. "Most people are in a hurry, and that's when they run into trouble," says Joan Stephens, chairperson of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry. Take the time to interview at least three candidates, go to see their place of business, and look at the work they've done. Speak to their clients and ask if they were happy with the job.

"Research your people," says Stephens. "Just because there's a big ad in the yellow pages doesn't mean they're good."

Red flags. First impressions count, including how a person talks, acts and dresses.

"If they come in looking like the cat dragged them in, that's a bad sign," says Novak.

"If they don't wipe their feet when they come to meet you,

Before you hire a contractor, it's a good idea to do your homework. That way, you can avoid the pitfalls — work left undone, bad communication, overpaying, and poor or incomplete work — that could arise if you're not cautious when you hire a contractor.

chances are they'll tromp through your house, forgetting they have mud all over their shoes," says Stephens.

You want to hire a person who not only looks neat and clean but who drives a decent vehicle.

"Looking at the truck they drive will tell you something about what their standard is. Trucks should look good, be clean, and not drip oil," says Stephens.

Watch out for contractors who solicit door-to-door, ask for cash up front, want payment for the entire job in advance, try to pressure you into signing a contract using threats or intimidation, or encourage you to spend money on temporary repairs.

Questions to ask prospective contractors:

1. How long have you been in business? A well-established company usually has been in business for at least 5 years.
2. Are you licensed? Check the state's licensing board registration to an annual renewal process, so contractors must have current licenses.
3. Do you have references? Contractors must have

See TIPS

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Homemade school lunches can be fun, nutritious

BY SHARON THOMPSON

WRIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS
LEXINGTON, Ky. — The

we get relaxed and com-
with our summer sched-
including late lunches on the
or at the park, it hits again.
back-to-school means parents
think about lunchboxes in-
of sandboxes.

For the children who like to
lunch to school, parents must
head to make sure that what
into the lunchbox provides
with the vitamins and min-
they need to grow and de-
But if the child won't eat it,
it doesn't matter how nutritious
the food is. Parents have to make the
work together.

Key to packing a suc-
cessful lunch is to allow the chil-
dren to help pack, or let them
choose some parameters,
Sandra Bastin, associate ex-
tension professor at the University
of Kentucky.

Bastin, a food and nutrition
specialist, tells her children James,
and Victoria, 11, that they must
include one fruit and vegetable
in every lunch. "It's permissible for
fresh veg-
one dairy product (yogurt,
milk, or a source of pro-
tein like peanut butter, meat, meat
cheese).

"No sweets without prior ap-
proval. Consequently, they get re-
creative," Bastin said.
Of course, my responsibility
is to have foods available, so I
have a cabinet full of ravioli,
canned and dried fruits.
The refrigerator has whatever fruits
and vegetables are available. I al-
ways have extras of blueberries,
bananas, homemade fruit rollups
(apple sauce), kiwi, or-
ange slices, because invariably the
kids want to try them.

"My kids get tired of sand-
wiches, so we do a lot of wraps,
whole-grain crackers, lettuce
wraps. If I do a wrap with turkey,
cheese or other chopped-up lettuce,
spinach or spinach. Any way I
add those fruits and vegeta-

bles, I do," she said.

It's important to have the right
equipment to pack a lunch, she
said. "If you send soup or
spaghetti, it needs to be hot. If you
send something perishable, it
needs to be on ice. I spend a lot
of time every year finding the right
thermos or ice pack."

Registered dietitian Tina
Thompson said, "Children tend to
eat their own lunches and are less
likely to 'swap' if they are involved
in the planning stages."

Thompson suggests:
■ Take children to the grocery
store and let them see, smell and
feel new fruits to try. Consider
dried foods as an alternative to
fresh (plums, raisins, berries).

■ Allow children to help make
their lunch by giving them two
choices for each food group.

■ Allow a "treat" on occasion,
but keep portions in mind. Serv-
ing sizes are based on adults
rather than children.

■ Teach kids to look for color
in lunches. "The more color, the
more nutrients, usually," Thomp-
son said.

■ Add a small note saying, "I
love you," or "Have a nice day."
For treats, pack stickers rather
than candy, cookies or other foods
with empty calories.

■ Use 100 percent fruit juice
or water. Fruit "drinks" or "cock-
tails" are usually flavored sugar-
water with very few nutrients.

■ Let your children help make
homemade cookies and muffins
to include in lunches.

■ Try different breads to vary
the sandwich: mini-bagels, whole-
wheat tortillas, whole-wheat En-
glish muffins, pita pockets.

Thompson said there are sev-
eral new products that are health-
ful choices when you need some-
thing quick to throw into the
lunchbox.

"New products that I would
consider healthier than other sim-
ilar products are Meijer Lunch-
Umms tuna wrap (\$3.49), and Os-
car Mayer Lunchables Chicken

Dunks or BBQ Chicken Shake-up
(\$2.49 each)," she said.

The main ingredients in the
lunchbag should be whole-grain
products and fruits and vegeta-
bles, Thompson said.

According to the USDA, fewer
than one in three consumers, es-
pecially children, meets daily in-
take goals for whole grains, based
on the new USDA dietary guide-
lines and MyPyramid consumer
food guide program.

ConAgra Foodservice joined
the whole-grain movement by in-
troducing new products for school
lunch programs at the School Nu-
trition Association's Annual Na-
tional Conference earlier this
month. The company introduced
Max whole-grain pizzas with Ul-
tragrain, a milder whole-grain
wheat ground to the consistency
of refined wheat flour, and the El
eXtremo whole-grain line of bur-
ritos and chimichangas.

Even the pickiest eater proba-
bly won't notice the addition of the
extra whole grains.

Here are a few quick sugges-
tions to live up to lunch fare:

■ Choose fruits that are easy
to eat and not messy. Peel fruits
that need it, and cut them into fin-
ger-sized pieces for younger chil-
dren.

■ Vary the bread from plain
sliced bread to raisin bread, pita
pockets, dinner rolls, flour tortillas,
or mini-bagels.

■ Rice cakes are a fun addi-
tion. Pack tuna salad, peanut but-
ter or cheese spread in a sepa-
rate container to be spooned on
at lunchtime so the cakes don't
get soggy.

■ If your child likes cold pizza,
send it for lunch. Pizza is not a
bad choice.

■ Mini-muffins are the perfect
size for kids' lunches. Use your
favorite recipe, but use smaller
tins.

■ A thermos of hot soup is per-
fect for cold days.
■ Cut sandwiches into dia-
monds, triangles, rectangles or

other fun shapes.

■ Make your own trail mix us-
ing your child's favorite cereal,
raisins, nuts and mini-pretzels.
Toss in a few fruit gummies.

■ Send along naturally sweet-
ened fruit cocktail in a container
to mix with yogurt.

■ Mix cream cheese with
raisins and a dash of honey to
spread on graham crackers.

■ You don't have to make a
sandwich. Pack string cheese and
ham sticks with a honey-mustard
sauce for dipping.

■ Finger foods always go over
well. Look over your favorite cold
appetizer recipes with your child's
lunch in mind.

■ Granola bars and Fruit New-
tons will satisfy a sweet tooth, but
be sure to read labels. Some are
not as healthful as you might
think.

■ Mix shredded carrots with
raisins, unflavored yogurt and a
bit of honey for a crunchy salad.

■ Make fruit kabobs of cubes
of fresh fruits using thin strips
of celery for skewers.

■ Cut veggies into finger-food
sizes, and accompany with sea-
soned cream cheese for dipping.

■ Low-fat microwave popcorn
can be popped quickly and sent
along. Be sure to put it in a sealed
bag to retain freshness.

Source:
www.homecooking.about.com

Lunch pack lineup

Nitrite-free sliced deli meat (or
meat alternative)

Organic or non-dairy cheese
slices

Small square or round crack-
ers without hydrogenated oils (or
rice crackers) Organic fruited ap-
ple sauce or organic raisins Sub-
stitutions:

Soy chocolate pudding for the
applesauce

Grapes, sliced peaches,
pineapple chunks or other fresh
fruit for the applesauce

See LUNCH, Page 5



MODERN SKYLIGHTS provide dependability, abundant natural light, ventilation and privacy, as well as aesthetic and health benefits.

Modern skylights improve the quality of natural light in your home

When you think of skylights, you
may picture them as unattractive,
inefficient, fading plastic bubbles
that leak. If so, you're probably
thinking of, to paraphrase an old
auto commercial, "your father's sky-
lights."

According to Joe Patrick, prod-
uct manager with VELUX America,
a skylight manufacturer, today's
skylights, when properly installed,
don't leak. "Matched flashing sys-
tems and other improvements have

show that 20 percent of our popu-
lation suffers varying degrees of
Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).
Individuals with SAD may experi-
ence depression, lower energy, an
increased appetite, and a need for
more sleep. SAD is directly linked
to insufficient daylight.

And there are other light-related
health considerations. Are there
older adults in your home? Re-
search firm McFarland and Fisher
reports that to accommodate the
adaptation of the aging eye, the

According to a recent American Standard survey,
American homeowners say if they had a choice
of accessories for the ultimate dream bathroom,
the primary option would be a skylight to bathe
the room with more natural light.

done away with the number one
fear that people have who are con-
sidering a skylight have — cutting
a hole in a perfectly good roof,"
Patrick says.

Where are skylights most used?
Traditionally in bathrooms and
kitchens. According to a recent
American Standard survey, Ameri-
can homeowners say if they had a
choice of accessories for the ulti-
mate dream bathroom, the primary
option would be a skylight to bathe
the room with more natural light.
Add the privacy factor of light from
above, plus the additional ventila-
tion available with skylights, and
you've quickly and economically
upgraded one of the most-used
rooms in the home.

Aside from the aesthetic bene-
fits of natural light, there are health-
related considerations. Studies

amount of light required for visual
acuity doubles for each 13 years
after the age of 20. More natural
light equals better sight.

Or perhaps you have young-
sters at home. Students perform
significantly better in environments
that are lit with natural rather than
artificial light. A study directed by
Hesong Mahone Group, in Cali-
fornia, tracked test scores for
21,000 students in California, Col-
orado and Washington, and found
that learning rates were 26 percent
higher in reading and 20 percent
higher in math in rooms with the
most natural light.

Another plus for today's mod-
ern skylight units is their Low-E en-
ergy-efficient glass, which is

See SKYLIGHT, Page 4

Wallpaper

PAGE 2

oval or rectangular dining
in the center of the dining
room. Consider a square or round
table that can be expanded for
guests. But placed in one corner of
the room. Here you can stack
using book covers uniformly
with the same material, a lamp,
a painting or a photo in
the frame.

Put this area together, use
the wallpaper for one of
the book covers, the
table or the frame. With a
few of arm chairs around the
table on either side, you have
a peaceful place to read,
write or do homework. A
small loveseat placed in the
corner could give the
room the air of a quiet library.

Use a buffet/hutch or bookcase
to showcase a few art objects with
uncomplicated forms to keep the
space simple and relaxing.

At the other end of the Great
Room, usually where the fireplace
and television are located, the
continued, subtle pattern should
again act as a complementing
background.

The fireplace, furniture or the
television need to come forward.
Using two love seats instead of a
sofa and two chairs, lessens the
"clutter" of furniture and using an
ottoman with a unadorned tray in-
stead of a cocktail table serves as
extra seating, a footrest as well as
a coffee table.

The new televisions, once hid-
den in bulky armchairs, can now
be either hung on the wall or can
sit on a table, using less visual
space. Use small, area rugs to de-
fine the spaces; a large rug will
look too busy.

Bedrooms and bathrooms are
taking on a new Zen quality, hav-
ing evolved into private living rooms
or sanctuaries. Here again the walls
need to give only a subtle presence.
The idea is to move away from
overall, busy, patterns to a more
neutral palette that is calming and
soothing. A painted wall in a large
bedroom can appear flat and ex-
pansive, while a tone-on-tone pa-
per can add texture and depth.

Many of the papers today offer
beautiful textures and faux patterns
that are easier to apply than the
multi-stepped finishes shown on the
networks. We are also seeing less
high tech and more wood, with
clean, unadorned lines. The bed,
usually the focal point of the
room, is presented without a skirt
and only a couple of pillows. A soft
paper treatment behind the bed
subtly defines the space; it is not
necessary to wallpaper every wall

to achieve an enveloping feeling.
The windows can be left untreated
if privacy isn't an issue or blinds or
shutters are used. A sitting area in
the room could have comfortable,
but not large, settee or arm chair,
table and lamp. This area, too,
could be defined with a single pa-
pered wall of a soft, coordinating
pattern.

In the bathroom, paper the wall
opposite simple framed mirrors and
have the delicate pattern gently re-
flected. Or paper the area sur-
rounding the bath/soaking tub to
define this relaxing spot. By defin-
ing areas, large "Open Spaces" are
no longer daunting, but friendly and
inviting.

For more information about
"Open Spaces" and the new
porous wallpaper, Easy-Wall, visit
Chesapeake Wallcoverings online
at www.ChesapeakeWallcoverings.com.

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How to welcome your friends and impress your neighbors

Ever wonder what's the secret to a warm, welcoming entry way? Wonder no more. Use these design tips from notable experts to best package your front door for a first impression that not only says welcome, but wow.

Noted home and style designer Stephen Saint-Onge says the entry door is a major first impression for the rest of the home. "The front door gives a lasting impression of the space," says Saint-Onge. "Doors draw you in, they guide you and they frame the spaces you enter into. They should be welcoming and create an extension of who you are and what your home stands for. Simply changing out windows and doors on an existing home can truly transform the look," says Saint-Onge, named one of the top 15 designers under 40 in America by "House Beautiful."

"I am a big fan of clean white trim and doors on the outside of a home. I like how they can create clean, classic lines on a home," he adds.

Customize your entry door

Pella Windows & Doors offer a variety of entry door combinations to make a dramatic style statement. Fiberglass entry doors from Pella provide the look of real wood, without the work. Unlike other materials, fiberglass resists dents and corrosion. Customers can choose from four graining choices that readily accept paint or stain for a warm, rich look.

"Pella's rich-looking fiberglass entry systems are ideal for homeowners seeking the long-lasting look of wood, while eliminating the

performance problems typical of wood doors — splitting, checking and warping," says Teresa McGuire, product planning manager, Pella. "When combined with our durable entry door hardware, available in Bright Brass, Satin Nickel and Oil-Rubbed Bronze, Pella's entry systems are built to last and look good along the way."

Steel entry doors offer similar advantages as fiberglass — they feature the strength and durability of steel to resist the inevitable dents and dings that come with the territory of a well-used entry door. Pella premium steel entry doors arrive primed and ready to paint.

All entry doors are not alike. Pella welcomes the customized approach to entry systems. Choose from sidelights, transoms, a variety of door panel styles or Pella's exclusive decorative glass collections for a unique yet stylish window and door combination that warmly welcomes family and friends.

Fall colors for window fashions

Fall is a great time to update your home and adding a popular, new color to the front door is one way to make a dramatic change. According to world-renowned color experts at the Pantone Color Institute, fall colors hit at the heart and soul of Mother Nature.

"What is most directional for Fall 2005 is the intriguing combinations of colors — Glazed Ginger and Moroccan Blue with the accent of Moss; or Rattan," observes Leatrice Eiseman, executive director, Pantone Color Institute. "Blue Turquoise, spring's dominant color, has matured into Moroccan Blue —

a deep, vibrant teal. Rich browns are also extremely important for Fall '05, from spicy shades like Glazed Ginger to darker chocolates. Meanwhile, Rattan exemplifies yellow's new, burnished direction."

Another way to transform your home yet keep current with the latest color trends is to seasonally change window treatments. The Pella Designer Series Collection, featuring shades tucked between the panes of glass, lends itself beautifully to the notion that change is good. This innovative new product allows homeowners to quickly and easily change either the blind or shade by simply opening the window, snapping out the existing blind or shade and popping in a new color. Visionary in its color palette selection, Pella offers Designer Series blinds and shades in fall's popular color tones such as Sage, Silver Mist, Bamboo, Pewter, Bisque, Bordeaux and Marine.

"Pella sets the trend in fashion and innovation for every opening in the home," says Sherri Gillette, Pella Corporation, brand manager for Designer Series windows and patio doors. "The new Designer Series windows and doors feature three key attributes that make them truly distinctive: we have the most popular styles and colors of window fashions to choose from, we pioneered the shade-between-the-glass option and no one makes it easier to change window fashions than Pella with our convenient snap-in, snap-out system."

For more information contact a local Pella Window & Door store expert by calling 888-84-PELLA or visit www.pella.com.

— Courtesy of ARA Content



THE FRONT DOOR SHOULD BE WELCOMING and create an extension of who you are and what your home stands for.

Think big to maximize garage-sale

Drive through any neighborhood on a pleasant weekend and you're likely to find scores of garage sales signs leading the way to adventure and intrigue. Perhaps you've pulled up to one of these destinations only to discover that the sale is just a haphazard display of junk unworthy of further inspection. You wonder how it is that anyone earns a profit at these impromptu sales.

Actually, think again. You can make a good deal of money at a garage sale; you just need to do your homework. Here are the steps you can take for success:

1. **Visit local flea markets and sales in your area.** Observe which items most commonly offered and which are in demand from customers. Note the prices on these items and which vendors allow customers to haggle for a deal.

2. **Take inventory of your household.** Make a list of the items in good condition that you can truly live without. You just might find you have a pile of things that you never use. Often these are gifts you received that were well-intentioned, but didn't quite work for your lifestyle, like shelving, pictures and other décor items.

3. **Find out the true value of items you own.** If you think you have an antique, consult with a professional and have it appraised. Although you should be prepared for



Garage sales are an excellent way to clean out the house and make some money in the process.

You can make a good deal of money at a garage sale; you just need to do your homework. Here are the steps you can take for success

some flexibility in pricing, you don't want to be taken advantage of by professional garage sale customers (yes, there are some people who make visiting garage sales more than just a hobby).

4. **Get organized.** Nothing looks better to a potential customer than a well-thought-out display of your items. Make sure items are clean,

clearly marked and displayed effectively.

Make it easy for people to look through your offerings. If they're forced to wade through a lot of piles or clutter, they may get discouraged.

5. **Advertise your sale effectively.** Give customers plenty of time to plan to attend your event. Check with your local newspaper and see what the rates are to place an advertisement in the classified section of your paper. In addition, post clear signs leading to your home on major roadways, where they'll attract attention.

This way you'll attract people aimlessly looking for a weekend pastime. Make sure the signs are legible and large enough to distinguish from a distance. Also make sure they can hold up to weather.

See GARGAGE, Page 5

Hosting a bash? Top tips for accommodating a crowd

Birthdays, religious events, engagements, holidays — life is filled with many occasions that often are accompanied by a gathering of friends and family. As you celebrate each milestone or special event, you'll likely host a party or two through the years. And in many cases, you'll be faced with feeding and entertaining a large crowd.

Learn ways to plan and execute these parties efficiently and you'll be a master host or hostess each and every time.

There are certain key elements present at most parties: where it will be held, how much it will cost, the menu and entertainment. By catering these elements to the scope of your party, you'll be more likely to achieve success. Here are some pointers to consider.

Establish a budget. Whether you want to spend a lot or a little on your party, establishing a set budget number will help you keep on track. Plus, no matter which road you take, you don't have to compromise on the elements at your party.

For example, a bigger budget might allow for roses on every table, while a smaller would be fine with wildflowers.

A buffet where food will need to seem abundant will be more expensive than a sit-down meal where you'll have control over portions.

If you have the funds live musicians or a DJ can be fun, but equally as effective is pre-recorded music you provide.

Choose a venue. Finding a place to house your party can be

a challenge when a large guest list is an issue. Many restaurants have a party or banquet room. Visit local establishments and inquire about their party accommodations and size limits. Or, you may want to rent out a room from a lodge, church, synagogue or other organization. You may find that you'll need to provide the food and linens, which can be rented or provided by a separate catering service. Others may have a preferred caterer and provide all the embellishments.

Apart from the quality of food. Consider cleanliness, breathing space, and bathroom facilities when booking a room. Guests won't want to sit on top of each other, so be careful not to overbook a small room. If you're hosting at home, make sure you'll have enough seats for at least 85 percent of your guests. Therefore, some can be sitting while others are mingling. You may want to move bulkier furniture into storage for the length of the party and bring in rental chairs and small folding tables instead.

Create a menu. If you are using a caterer or a restaurant, they'll likely have a set party menu. Just be sure you have varied options for guests to try and accommodate as many dietary restrictions as possible. It's courteous to provide a vegetarian option for those who don't eat meat. Usually, most party packages include a choice of three main courses. Buffets may be the way to go to allow guests to pick and choose from a few different dishes. If you'll be doing the cooking, create dishes that are easy to

prepare in advance and on the day of the party. Rice dishes, and casseroles, are easy to put together. In addition, they're relatively inexpensive and good for a crowd.

To make things easier for yourself, look to large party-type stores such as Costco, BJ's and Sam's Club. Even your supermarket may have pre-prepared foods in a variety of sizes. For example, eggplant parmesan is much easier to cook in large quantities than individual plant slices, saving you the mess of doing the dishes yourself.

These stores may also have large appetizer selections that are literally "heat and eat" such shortcuts when your guests won't mind or notice. The simpler the better, so stick to a few basic items like a cola, non-caffeinated iced tea, and such. If alcoholic beverages are to be served, it may help the bartender to monitor guest consumption.

Another good tip is to have some snacks or finger foods available so that guests can nibble on them while waiting for the main course. To have huge quantities of dishes.

Cheese and crackers, and dips, and mini quiches are all fine examples.

Arrange décor and entertainment. Let the theme of your party dictate how you want to have forms of entertainment you provide. For many

See BASH, Page 6

Skylight

FROM PAGE 3

durable, reduces external noises, and won't discolor as did older plastic bubble skylights. And skylights no longer just sit there. Light and heat gain or loss through skylights can be controlled as never before. Electric-venting models are available with remote control, blinds, shades, awnings, insect screening, and automatic rain sensors. Now there are even skylights available with electrochromic glass that can be lightened and darkened by remote control, without ever losing your view of the sky.

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Moving should be easy on the kids

Moving — even the word can give you the shivers. Inarguably, it is one of the most stressful events in a child's life. Bring kids into the equation, and it becomes even more stressful. Kids don't want to leave their favorite teacher or their best friends. Just like you, the parent, they need to start over, finding new friends and learning to adjust to a new neighborhood. Moving is never easy, but you can make moving easier on kids by following some tips like these.

Be honest. Be upfront with your kids about your plans to move. You want them to find out by seeing a "for-sale" sign in front of the house or by overhearing one of their parents talking about it. Tell your kids about the move as soon as you decide on it.

Explain to them why you are moving. where you are moving to and how everything will be taking place. Show your new community so they can tell them about the neighborhood, school, parks and other things they will enjoy. It will help you know them and make it easier to answer any questions your kids may have.

Express your feelings. Your kids may express their feelings whether they are angry, sad, or excited about the move. Be sure to reassure them that you will be there to address any concerns.

Involve your kids. Keep your kids involved in the moving process. In your old home,

Moving will never be easy for children or parents. But, by following a few simple tips, you, as a parent, can help make the transition go as smoothly as possible for the whole family.

let them help pack up their own belongings. That ratty teddy bear you can't wait to throw out may be your child's best friend during a thunderstorm in your new home.

Having your kids fill out a change of address card or return those old library books are two more examples of how you can get them involved.

Let them pick out furniture for their new room, or let them choose the paint color for the walls. That way, your new home will have a piece of them in it.

Investigate. You can talk all you want about your new hometown, but the best way to get your kids excited about the new place is to take them there. Explore the new neighborhood. Play in the park. Eat at a local restaurant. Visit their new school.

Ask the school for the names of students in your child's class who live near your new home. That way, you can say hello before you move in so your child will already have a friend in the neighborhood.

While in town, sign up for an extracurricular activity sponsored by the school or community center such as a sports team, music

pickles in a zipper bag, put that in the middle. Add the spoon, then top with the colorful napkin. Place the note or joke or cartoon on top. Seal and refrigerate.

Source: *Whole Foods Market*

HAM & CHEESE PIN-WHEELS

1/2 cup light cream cheese, softened
4 8-inch whole wheat flour tortillas
1 cup pre-shredded carrots
1/2 cup pre-shredded reduced-fat cheddar cheese
6 ounces thinly sliced lean deli ham

Dipping sauces:
1/4 cup honey mustard
1/4 cup barbecue sauce
1/4 cup hummus

Spread cream cheese evenly over each tortilla. Layer each tortilla with carrots, cheese and ham. Roll up tightly and slice into 1/4-inch rounds. Serve with dipping sauces. Makes 4 servings.

Source: *"The Mom's Guide to Meal Makeovers"* by Janice Newell Bissex and Liz Weiss.

POPEYE'S VEGGIE PITAS

2 cups packed baby spinach
2 tablespoons light or regular Caesar salad dressing
2 large whole wheat pitas, halved
1/2 cup hummus
1 small red bell pepper, thinly sliced
4 ounces thinly sliced part-skim mozzarella cheese

Combine spinach and salad dressing in medium bowl; mix well. Line each pita pocket evenly with hummus, bell pepper, spinach mix and cheese. Makes 4 servings.

Source: *"The Mom's Guide to Meal Makeovers"*

KIDS CRUNCH

2-1/2 cups crispy puffed-corn cereal
2-1/2 cups frosted oat cereal with marshmallows
1-1/4 cups pretzel fish
1-1/4 cup mixed dried fruit
3/4 cup salted soy nuts
3/4 cup fruit flavored bite-sized candies

Combine all ingredients in airtight container. Put lid on and seal tightly. Shake to combine. Makes 18 servings.

Source: *"Cooking Up Fun for Kids with Diabetes"* by Patti Gell and Tami Ross.

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MOVING IS HARD on both children and parents. But involving your children in the move from the very beginning is one way to make the event easier on everyone.

Garage

FROM PAGE 4

A good idea might be to follow your signs to be sure they offer the best route to your sale.

6. Don't man the sale alone. Enlist the help of a friend or family member to either act as salesperson extraordinaire or to man the till. This way customers will receive prompt attention and questions about items can be answered. Also, you'll be sure your profits are well protected. You might also want to have one more set of eyes present to make sure no one gets a "five-finger discount" at your garage sale; it will discourage pickpocketing.

7. Most importantly, have fun at your sale. Remember, any profit you make is better than none at all. Donate any remaining items to charity, rather than dragging them back into the house afterward.

Trend

FROM PAGE 2

longer satisfied to have cabinets that merely look good. They want them to work efficiently for them, too," Aufderhar said. Decora was one of the first in the semi-custom cabinet market to offer a full line of cabinet storage options, from overhead wire racks, to pull out spice racks and chopping boards, and more. The ACCESSORIES line, Aufderhar said, has been very popular with the gourmet cook who doesn't want to scramble around in the back of a cabinet for a pot or pan during a dinner party.

Appliance manufacturers have been quick to capitalize on the trend too, as they develop warming drawers, beverage chillers and more for under the counter.

By offering customers options like buffet storage for linens, fine glass storage, beverage centers, and the like, Decora has made it possible for customers to design more complex areas in their kitchens.

"Instead of the kitchens with just a traditional cook, prep, clean-up, and food storage areas, customers can use their kitchen cabinets to create a formal dining area, a casual dining space, a homework area, a wine service/bar area, or anything they need, just by carving out a corner of space in their kitchens," Aufderhar said.

"It's the products and the planning that are truly key to making the open-concept kitchen trend work. It's a trend that truly reflects how people are living these days, and I think it's a way of life that will be around for a long time."

To find out more about emerging kitchen design trends, visit www.decoracabinets.com.

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Tips

FROM PAGE 2

order to get permits. (Permits are necessary for even the most simple jobs, like decks.) If the contractor asks you to get the permits, it's possible that he or she is uninsured. Hiring an uninsured contractor spells disaster. There's a huge risk that the work won't pass building inspections, and you could be held liable if someone gets hurt on the job or if your property is damaged.

4. Will subcontractors be used? If subcontractors will be used on your project, ask to meet them. Make sure they're licensed and insured, if required by your state.

The contract. All agreements — including oral promises — should be put in writing for your protection. "Everything should be spelled out very well so that anyone could read through it and understand what's going on," says Novak.

Key points include the contractor's name, address, phone and license number, if required by your state; a detailed description of all items to be installed — the quality, quantity, size, color and brand names of stoves, appliances, tiles, and cabinets, for example; a three-day cancellation period clause, which is required by law; a work schedule with approximate start and completion dates; and a payment schedule.

Initial deposits shouldn't be more than 10 percent of the entire job. The rest of the payments should be made periodically during the job, contingent on the completion of work you're happy with. (Usually, there are five or six payments.) Other important clauses are a "broom" clause with provisions for daily cleanups, trash hauling, and dust control as well as a change order. A change order — a written authorization by you to change or add to the work described in the original contract — is common.

But be aware that this often affects the length and cost of the project. If you want to change something, stop all work and get an order right away so you won't waste time or money.

Warranty. Last but not least is a warranty clause covering the work, including labor and materials. You should also ask for written warranties offered by manufacturers of cabinets, appliances, fixtures, bathtubs, sinks and tiles (as applicable). The average warranty time is 1 year to 18 months.

As you can see, finding a good contractor takes some work, but is well worth the effort.

Some keys to throwing a successful 'open-house' party

■ Here's a party idea that doesn't tie you or your guests down

MS

If you don't want to be bound by strict time frames and a set schedule for your next social event, why not host an "open-house" party? Here, guests can drop by at your house when they want and leave at their leisure. The ebb and flow of guests will ensure there's plenty of room for mingling, and being less bound to structure may allow you to enjoy your event more. Here are some inviting ideas to get you started.

Think up a theme

A theme can make party planning painless. If your home is decorated in a certain hue, why not pick a color scheme for your bash that will complement your design sense? Plan a "blue" party, and set out napkins, plates, glasses and candles in this color. Guests who care to bring a gift can select one in your signature color.

Another idea is to have a wine-tasting party. Guests can bring their favorite brand or year and share it with others. And don't forget the possibility of a musical backdrop, with a potluck CD party to set the mood. Ask each friend to bring an old CD, and everyone can swap. Don't forget to play some of your guests' old favorites as they tour your new home.

An "inviting" home

Make guests feel comfortable in your space. Offer plenty of seating possibilities, and create areas for chatting by setting up a few seats around small snack or coffee tables throughout your home. A delicate scent of apple cinnamon or baked cookies will make your home seem cozy and comfortable. Remember to include specific directions on your party invites, and consider hanging balloons or a sign outside your home to lead the way.

A theme can make party planning painless. If your home is decorated in a certain hue, why not pick a color scheme for your bash that will complement your design sense? Carry out the motif in the food as well. A "red" party might include strawberries, apples and red peppers.

At an "open-house" party guests can drop by at your house when they want and leave at their leisure. The ebb and flow of guests will ensure there's plenty of room for mingling, and being less bound to structure may allow you to enjoy your event more.

Decorating the digs

Don't feel like you have to go crazy in decorating. A few floral or candle arrangements are all you need to highlight your space. To add a personal touch, display some photos of family and friends throughout your home.

At night, well-placed lit candles give a flattering glow to any room. If you prefer, remove family heirlooms or delicate collectibles from the rooms where you'll be entertaining to avoid accidents and breakage.

Focus on food

Finger foods and anything that can be prepared in advance are ideal for open-house fiestas. Don't forget to refresh supplies as guests leave and new ones arrive. If the event is themed, carry out the motif in the food as well (a "red" party might include strawberries, apples and red pepper appetizers).

Slightly more messy foods like dips or hot appetizers should be served in the kitchen and dining areas, along with beverages. Arrange to have portable foods available in other rooms of your house to encourage guests to spread out and maximize socialization possibilities.



IT'S PARTY TIME. Be sure to arrange things at an open house, so guests can celebrate times. Finger foods and anything that can be prepared in advance are ideal for open-house parties.

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